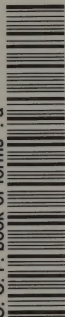


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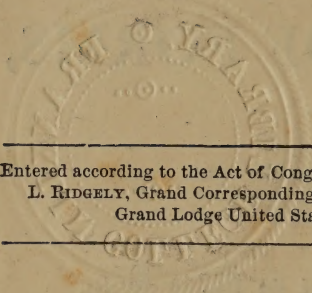
Grand Lodge of the United States.



PUBLISHED BY THE

R. W. GRAND LODGE OF THE UNITED STATES.

1871.



Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1870, by JAS.
L. RIDGELY, Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary
Grand Lodge United States, I. O. O. F.

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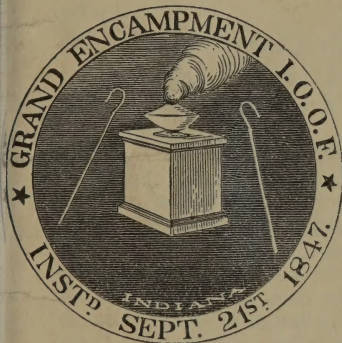
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United States,
Session, 1867.

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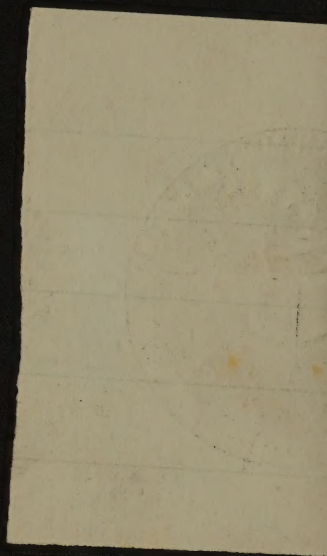
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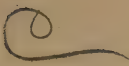
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resolution. The
volume to be furnished to Jurisdictions and Lodges
at \$1.25, and when prepared, the Grand Corres-
ponding and Recording Secretary to notify the
several Jurisdictions that said volume is subject
to order.

136025




I. O. O. F.

PROCEEDINGS

DIRECTING THE PUBLICATION.

R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States,
SEPTEMBER SESSION, 1867.

Among other proceedings, the following was
acted:

the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States:

The Finance Committee, to whom was referred
a resolution of Rep. VEITCH, P. G. Sire, in the
words following:

Resolved, That the Grand Corresponding and Recording
Secretary be and he is hereby requested to compile and pub-
lish in one volume, with appropriate title, the form for Pub-
lic Installation, form for Funeral Procession and Funeral
Service, form for Laying Corner Stones, form for Dedicating
Chapels, together with such other forms prescribed by the
Grand Lodge of the United States, as in the judgment of the
Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary, may be pro-
ved expedient—

Recommend the adoption of the resolution. The
volume to be furnished to Jurisdictions and Lodges
\$1.25, and when prepared, the Grand Corres-
ponding and Recording Secretary to notify the
several Jurisdictions that said volume is subject
to order.

136025

4 PROCEEDINGS DIRECTING THE PUBLICATION.

SEPTEMBER SESSION, 1868.

The following resolutions were submitted by a special committee—Page 4387 Journal:

Resolved, That the forms prepared by the Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary, and authorized by the resolution of last session, together with the form for Laying Corner Stones of Odd-Fellows' Halls, prepared and now submitted by the committee, be and the same are hereby approved and adopted.

Resolved, That the Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary have stereotyped and printed, in the type known as long primer, two thousand copies of the Book of Forms, in the size known as 18mo, and he is authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer for the necessary cost of the same.

Resolved, That the price of the Book of Forms be fixed at two dollars per copy.

SEPTEMBER SESSION, 1869.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary be directed to carry into effect the resolutions submitted by the special committee on the Book of Forms, as found on page 4387 of Journal, and that he be directed to issue the Book of Forms at as early a day as practicable. (Page 4627 Journal.)


JAS. L. RIDGELY


G. C. & R. Sec'y.

FORM OF PUBLIC INSTALLATION

FOR

SUBORDINATE LODGE OFFICERS.

 No Public Installation can take place unless the same is authorized by the Grand Lodge under whose jurisdiction the Subordinate exists.

 At all Public Installations the ceremony must be conducted by one or more of the elective officers of the Grand Lodge, or a District Deputy Grand Master, and the form prescribed by the Grand Lodge of the United States must be used.

Should the M. W. Grand Master be present, the Installation will be said to be in "*Ample Form*." Should it, in his absence, be conducted by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, or a District Deputy Grand Master, it will be said to be in "*Regular Form*." Should neither of these be present, then it may be conducted by any P. G. Officer or P. G.—preference being given to seniority and rank, and shall be said to be in "*Form*." The Officer officiating for the Grand Master, in his absence, will be addressed by his own proper title; any other Grand Officer *pro tem*. who may be appointed by the Installing Officer will be designated by the office he represents.

All the ordinary ceremonies of the Lodge being suspended, the inner door being opened wide and the officers in their respective stations; the Grand Marshal having a white baton, trimmed with scarlet, approaches, and the following conversation ensues:

Grand Marshal. Worthy Guardian, inform the Noble Grand that the Grand Marshal of the R. W. Grand Lodge of demands admission.

Inside Guardian. Noble Grand, the W. Grand Marshal of the is without and demands admission.

Noble Grand. You will admit him.

Inside Guardian. You have liberty to enter.

The Grand Marshal passes to the centre of the Lodge, facing the Noble Grand, whom he salutes with the baton.

Grand Marshal. Worthy Noble Grand, I am instructed by the M. W. Grand Master of the R. W. Grand Lodge of to ascertain whether the charter (or dispensation) of this Lodge is in the hall; whether the dues of this Lodge have been paid, and if not, to request that they shall be placed in my hands; to ask if the officers have been elected for the ensuing term; if they are free from all charges, pecuniary or otherwise, upon your Lodge books; and whether you are now ready to proceed with the ceremony of installation?

Noble Grand. Worthy Grand Marshal, the charter of this Lodge is in the Lodge room, and in my keeping. The Treasurer will pay over to you the dues of the Lodge, or show you the Grand Secretary's receipt for the same. The officers for the ensuing term have been elected; they each and all stand free from all charges upon our Lodge books. You will please inform the M. W. Grand Master that we are prepared for installation and await his pleasure.

After receiving the dues, the Grand Marshal again salutes the Noble Grand (with the baton) and retires. The procession being formed, the Grand Officers approach the door.

Grand Marshal. The Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows of

Inside Guardian. Noble Grand, the Grand Lodge.

Noble Grand. In the name of Friendship, Love and Truth, admit them.

They enter and pass to the centre of the hall. The Lodge rises. The Grand Master steps in front.

Grand Master. Noble Grand, by authority of the R. W. Grand Lodge of we appear here this evening for the purpose of installing into their respective chairs the officers of this Lodge. You will please direct your officers to surrender their respec-

tive chairs to the Grand Officers in attendance ; and you will now please take your seat as Sitting Past Grand of this Lodge for the current term.

Noble Grand. Officers of, Lodge, you will surrender your chairs to the officers of the R. W. Grand Lodge of

The Grand Master will take the Noble Grand's chair, the Grand Warden will take the Vice Grand's, the Grand Secretary will take the Secretary's, and the Grand Treasurer will take the Treasurer's chair.

Grand Master. My brethren, you will please be seated. Worthy Grand Marshal, you will retire with the officers elect for examination. It is unnecessary for me to remind you that that duty should be faithfully performed.

After the examination of the candidates, the Grand Marshal will announce through the Grand Guardian.

The Grand Marshal with the officers elect for installation.

The Grand Marshal and officers elect will enter in procession, the Lodge remaining seated ; each of the officers may be supported by two who have passed the same office ; and will form a line on the left of the Noble Grand's chair : during the march into the Lodge, the following may be sung :

June. There is an hour of

INSTALLATION ODE.

Come let us swell the joyful note,
And hail the chosen band,
Who, in compliance with our vote,
To-night before us stand.
Our Noble and Vice Grand will now
To seats of honor move,
And bear the ensign on their brow
Of Friendship, Truth and Love.

Hail! all our officers elect,
Of high and low degree,
Hail! each with due and kind respect,
Whate'er his station be:
We place reliance in their zeal,
That they will worthy prove,
And stamp their actions with the seal
Of Friendship, Truth and Love.

Grand Marshal. M. W. Grand Master, I present to you for installation, our worthy brother, [A. B.,] whom the brethren of this Lodge have elected Noble Grand for the present term.

Grand Master. [To the Noble Grand elect.] Brother, do you accept of the office to which you have been elected?

Noble Grand elect. I do.

Grand Master. [To the Lodge.] Brethren, are you content with the choice you have made of Noble Grand?

Answer, Should any objection be expressed, the Grand Master, if the installation be in public, will recall the officers to their respective chairs, and with the Grand Officers will retire. If the installation be in private, it will be the duty of the Grand Master to examine its nature; and if it should appear that the election has been effected by irregular or illegal means, the Grand Master shall order a new election to take place at that time, which he shall conduct; and the person then elected, if qualified, shall be installed. These directions apply to all the officers.

Grand Master. M. W. Grand Marshal, have you examined the Noble Grand elect, to ascertain whether he is sufficiently acquainted with the various lectures and instructions to enable him to deliver them according to his office? Have you ascertained whether he has rendered sufficient previous service in office, and is free from all charges on the books of this Lodge, of whatsoever kind?

Grand Marshal. I have, M. W. Grand Master, and find the brother competent and eligible to fill the honorable station to which he has been elected by the brothers of this Lodge.

Grand Master. Noble Grand elect, will you promise to submit to your charges; to be obedient to the mandates of the Grand Lodge of the ; to support the regulations of our Order; to act

with justice toward all brothers, as is the duty of a Noble Grand?

Noble Grand elect. I will.

Grand Master. Your apparent willingness to conform to the charges and regulations of our Order—the proficiency you have made therein—your moral standing—your freedom from indebtedness to the Lodge, and the voice of a majority thereof, entitle you to be now installed into the office of Noble Grand of this Lodge. You will therefore place your right hand upon your left breast, and repeat after me:

NOBLE GRAND'S O. B. N.

In the presence of the members of the Order here assembled, I,, do promise, declare, and say, that I will perform the duties of Noble Grand of this Lodge until the end of the present term; and will support, maintain, and abide by the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows of the: as well as the Constitution and By-Laws of this Lodge. I furthermore promise, that I will not give the means whereby to gain admission, to any person except a member of this Lodge in good standing. I will, to the utmost of my power, enforce the laws, and preserve order and decorum in the Lodge. I will judge of every trans-

action that comes before me without prejudice or partiality; see that the obligations to candidates for membership are legally administered; and should the Grand Lodge direct I will deliver the Warrant or Dispensation of this Lodge to the Grand Master. All this I promise to fulfill, unless prevented by sickness, or some other unavoidable occurrence. To the performance of all which I pledge my most sacred honor.

Grand Master. W. Grand Marshal, you will proceed to invest the Noble Grand in the regalia of his office.

Grand Marshal. By command of the M. W. Grand Master, I invest you with this collar, jewel, and other regalia, which are emblems of your office.

Grand Master. Noble Grand, you will receive from us the Constitution and By-Laws of your Lodge; you are to take them for your guide, and cause them to be frequently read in your Lodge. You will please be seated at our right hand.

Grand Marshal. M. W. Grand Master, I present to you for installation, our worthy brother [C. D.,] whom the brethren of this Lodge have elected Vice Grand for the present term.

Grand Master. Brother, do you accept the office to which you have been elected?

Vice Grand elect. I do.

Grand Master. Brethren of the Lodge, are you content with the choice you have made of Vice Grand?

Answer. (As in case of Noble Grand.)

Grand Master. W. Grand Marshal, have you examined the Vice Grand elect, to ascertain whether he is sufficiently acquainted with the various lectures and instructions to enable him to assist in delivering them according to his office? Have you ascertained whether he has rendered sufficient previous service in office, and is free from all charges on the books of this Lodge, of whatsoever kind?

Grand Marshal. I have, M. W. Grand Master, and find the brother competent and eligible to fill the honorable station to which he has been elected by the brothers of this Lodge.

Grand Master. Vice Grand elect, will you promise to yield a like obedience to your charges and the mandates of the R. W. Grand Lodge as the Noble Grand; to assist him in the execution of his

office; to use your efforts in promoting the harmony and welfare of the Lodge, and to increase love among your brethren?

Vice Grand elect. I will.

Grand Master. In consequence of your avowed willingness to enter upon, and perform the duties of Vice Grand of this Lodge, you will now proceed with our W. Grand Marshal to the chair of your office, where you will be installed. W. Grand Marshal, you will present the Vice Grand elect to our R. W. Grand Warden for obligation.

Grand Marshal. R. W. Grand Warden, by command of our M. W. Grand Master, I present you brother [C. D.,] the Vice Grand elect, for obligation.

Grand Warden. Vice Grand elect, you will please place your right hand upon your left breast, and repeat after me:

VICE GRAND'S O. B. N.

In the presence of the members of the Order now assembled, I,, do promise, declare, and say, that I will perform the duties of Vice Grand of this Lodge until the end of the present term; and, in the absence of the Noble Grand, to the utmost of my ability, perform all the duties he has

obligated himself to do; that I will restrain every improper sentiment, and strictly administer the obligations to candidates for membership, or cause the same to be done by a Past Grand or Past Vice Grand. All this I promise to fulfill, unless prevented by sickness or some unavoidable occurrence. To the performance of all which I pledge my most sacred honor.

Grand Master. W. Grand Marshal, you will proceed to invest the Vice Grand in the regalia of his office.

Grand Marshal. By command of the M. W. Grand Master, I invest you with the badges of your office. In receiving them, you will not cease to remember that the preference of the Lodge has placed them upon you, in the full confidence that while you wear them, their purity shall not be blemished.

Grand Warden. Vice Grand, I present to you a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws of your Lodge, which you will make your study, in order that you may assist the Noble Grand in the performance of his duties; and this gavel, which indicates that you are to assist him in the exercise of his authority. You will now take your seat as Vice Grand of this Lodge for the present term.

Grand Marshal. M. W. Grand Master, I present to you for installation our worthy brother [E. F.,] whom the brethren of this Lodge have elected Secretary.

Grand Master. Brother, do you accept the office to which you have been elected?

Secretary elect. I do.

Grand Master. Brethren of the Lodge, are you content in the choice you have made of Secretary?

Answer [As in the case of the Noble Grand.]

Grand Master. W. Grand Marshal, have you examined the Secretary elect, and ascertained whether he has attained sufficient degrees to entitle him to the office? Have you ascertained whether he is free from all charges on the books, of whatsoever kind?

Grand Marshal. I have, M. W. Grand Master, and find the brother fully qualified to fill the office to which he has been elected.

Grand Master. Worthy Secretary elect, will you engage to perform the duties of Secretary of this Lodge, faithfully and punctually, and to comply with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge?

Secretary elect. I will.

Grand Master. Having expressed your willingness to enter upon and perform the duties of Secretary of this Lodge, our W. Grand Marshal will conduct you to the chair of your office, where the obligation appertaining to it will be administered unto you. W. Grand Marshal, you will present the Secretary elect to our R. W. Grand Secretary.

Grand Marshal. R. W. Grand Secretary, by command of our M. W. Grand Master, I present to you brother [E. F.,] the Secretary elect, for obligation.

Grand Secretary. Worthy Secretary elect, you will place your right hand upon your left breast and repeat after me:

When all the duties of Secretary are performed by one Secretary, the obligation will be administered thus:

SECRETARY'S O. B. N.

In the presence of the members of the Order now assembled, I, do promise, declare and say, that I will keep accurate minutes of the transactions of this Lodge; I will keep correctly the accounts between this Lodge and its members; I will pay all moneys into the hands of the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same; and that I will, as soon as practicable, forward to the Trea-

surer copies of all resolutions authorizing drafts of moneys on him. I furthermore promise, that I will not wrong the Lodge or a brother to the value of any thing; and that I will not take part or share, directly or indirectly, in any illegal distribution of the funds or other property of the Lodge, but will, to the best my ability and the utmost of my power, endeavor to prevent any attempt at any such perversion of the property of the Lodge; and I will deliver all books and papers belonging to the Lodge, to my successor in office, and perform such other duties as the Lodge may require. All this I promise to fulfill, unless prevented by sickness or some unavoidable circumstance. To the performance of all which, I pledge my most sacred honor.

Should the duties of Secretary be divided between a Secretary for recording, &c., and a Permanent Secretary for the accounts, the obligation for Secretary will be administered thus:

RECORDING SECRETARY'S O. B. N.

In the presence of the members of the Order now assembled, I,, do promise, declare, and say, that I will keep accurate minutes of the transactions of this Lodge; and that I will, as soon as practicable, forward to the Treasurer copies of all

resolutions authorizing drafts of moneys on him. I furthermore promise, that I will not wrong the Lodge or a brother to the value of anything; and that I will not take part or share, directly or indirectly, in any illegal distribution of the funds or other property of the Lodge, but will, to the best of my ability and the utmost of my power, endeavor to prevent any attempt at such perversion of the property of the Lodge; and I will deliver all books and papers belonging to the Lodge to my successor in office, and perform such other duties as the Lodge may require. All this I promise to fulfill, unless prevented by sickness or some unavoidable circumstance. To the performance of all which I pledge my most sacred honor.

Grand Master. W. Grand Marshal, you will now invest the Secretary with the regalia of his office.

Grand Marshal. By command of the M. W. Grand Master, I invest you with the badges of your office. In wearing this regalia of the important office to which you have been elevated, it is our hope that you will not for a moment lose sight of the responsibilities resting upon you, so that you may surrender it to your successor with as much honor to yourself as you now receive it.

Grand Secretary. Worthy Secretary, I present to you these books and papers, the property of your office ; and this seal of the Lodge, which is to remain in your official keeping. You will now take your seat as Secretary of this Lodge for the present term.

When there is a Permanent Secretary, he will be presented, &c., to the Grand Master in the same manner and form as above described for the Secretary, taking care to insert the word "Permanent" before the word "Secretary," wherever it occurs ; and he will be obligated thus :

PERMANENT SECRETARY'S O. B. N.

In the presence of the members of the Order now assembled, I,, do promise, declare, and say, that I will keep correctly the accounts between the Lodge and its members, and will pay all moneys in my hands to the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same. I furthermore promise, that I will not wrong the Lodge or a brother to the value of anything ; and that I will not take part or share, directly or indirectly, in any illegal distribution of the funds or other property of the Lodge, but will, to the best of my ability and the utmost of my power, endeavor to prevent any attempt at such perversion of the property of the Lodge ; and I will deliver all books and papers belonging to the Lodge to my successor in office, and perform such

other duties as the Lodge may require. All this I promise to fulfill, unless prevented by sickness or some unavoidable circumstance. To the performance of all which I pledge my most sacred honor.

Grand Master. W. Grand Marshal, you will now invest the Permanent Secretary with the regalia of his office.

Grand Marshal. By command of our M. W. Grand Master, I invest you with the badges of your office. In bearing this distinction among your brethren, be assiduous in discharging the duties of your station.

Grand Secretary. Worthy Permanent Secretary, I present to you the books and papers of your office. You will now take your station as Permanent Secretary for the term of months, as provided by the By-Laws of your Lodge.

Grand Marshal. M. W. Grand Master, I present to you for installation our worthy brother [G. H.,] whom the brethren of this Lodge have elected Treasurer.

Grand Master. Brother, do you accept of the office to which you have been elected?

Treasurer elect. I do.

Grand Master. Brethren, are you content in the choice you have made of Treasurer?

Answer. [As in case of Noble Grand.]

Grand Master. W. Grand Marshal, have you examined the Treasurer elect, and ascertained whether he has attained sufficient degrees to entitle him to the office? Have you ascertained whether he is free from all charges on the books, of whatsoever kind? Has his bond of office been duly and regularly executed, to the benefit and satisfaction of the Lodge?

Grand Marshal. I have, M. W. Grand Master, examined the brother, and find him duly qualified and free from charges. I have also ascertained that his bond has been regularly executed, presented, and accepted, and is now in possession of the Lodge.

Grand Master. Worthy Treasurer elect, will you engage to perform the duties of Treasurer faithfully, as required by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Lodge.

Treasurer elect. I will.

Grand Master. Under this assurance of your disposition to enter upon, and perform the duties of Treasurer of this Lodge, our W. Grand Marshal

will conduct you to the chair of your office, where the necessary obligation will be administered unto you. W. Grand Marshal, you will present the Treasurer elect to our R. W. Grand Treasurer.

Grand Marshal. R. W. Grand Treasurer, by command of our M. W. Grand Master, I present to you brother [G. H.,] the Treasurer elect, for obligation.

Grand Treasurer. Worthy Treasurer elect, you will place your right hand upon your left breast, and repeat after me :

TREASURER'S O. B. N.

In the presence of the members of the Order now assembled, I, do promise, declare, and say, that I will justly and truly perform the duties of Treasurer of this Lodge; I will pay all orders drawn on me by the Noble Grand, or committee duly authorized by the Lodge, after having received from the Secretary a copy of the resolution authorizing the same; I will deliver all books and papers, and pay all moneys in my hands to my successor in office; and I will not wrong this Lodge to the value of anything; and that I will not take part or share, directly or indirectly, in any illegal distribution of the funds or other property of the Lodge, but will, to the best of my ability and the

utmost of my power, endeavor to prevent any attempt at such perversion of the property of the Lodge. All this I promise to fulfill, unless prevented by sickness or some unavoidable circumstance. To the performance of all which I pledge my most sacred honor.

Grand Master. W. Grand Marshal, you will now invest the Worthy Treasurer with the regalia of his office.

Grand Marshal. By command of our M. W. Grand Master, I invest you with the badges of your office. The importance and responsibility of office will always admonish you of the necessity of preserving free from tarnish, the honor you have pledged.

Grand Treasurer. Worthy Treasurer, you will receive from me the books and papers of your office. You will now take your seat as Treasurer of this Lodge for the present term.

The Grand Master will retire from the Noble Grand's chair by the left; during which time he will proceed:

Grand Master. Noble Grand, I present to you this gavel, the emblem of your authority, and call upon your brethren to arise. [*The Lodge will rise.*] Receive your authority, and take your seat as Noble Grand of this Lodge. Noble Grand, you will now appoint your subordinate officers.

The Noble Grand and Vice Grand will then proceed to make the several appointments of their officers, in manner following:

Noble Grand. Brother [J. K.,] I appoint you Warden of this Lodge for the present term. Are you willing to accept that office, and enter upon the duties thereof?

Answer. I am, Noble Grand.

Noble Grand. Brother, you will take your station.

After the appointments have been made, the Grand Master will proceed thus:

Grand Master. Noble Grand, previous to delivering into your keeping the charter and books pertaining to your office, it is necessary that you should enter with us into another obligation. Place yourself in the attitude in which you were last obligated, and repeat:

NOBLE GRAND'S SECOND O. B. N.

I,, Noble Grand, do in the presence of these brethren, most sincerely promise and declare, that I will neither print nor write, nor cause to be printed or written, any part or parts of these charges; nor will I, in the presence of any person, either read or rehearse, or cause to be understood

by any means, any part or parts of them, except in the presence of brothers duly qualified to receive them in legal form. Nor will I at any time permit them to be taken from my keeping by any person or persons, excepting the Most Worthy Grand Master, or his Deputy, or a committee from the Grand Lodge, and the Noble Grand who shall have been elected to succeed me. I furthermore promise that I will not wrong this Lodge or the Grand Lodge of this jurisdiction, to the value of anything; and that I will not take part or share, directly or indirectly, in any illegal distribution of the funds or other property of the Lodge, but will, to the best of my ability and the utmost of my power, endeavor to prevent any attempt at such perversion of the property of the Lodge. To the performance of all which I pledge my most sacred honor.

Grand Master. Having full confidence in your integrity, we here present you with the books pertaining to your office, the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of the, and the Charter under which this Lodge exists. And it is your duty that these, severally, shall be present in the Lodge, when open, and at the installation of your successor.

CHARGES TO BE DELIVERED

BY THE

INSTALLING GRAND OFFICER.

Most Noble Grand:

You have been elected and installed into the office of Noble Grand of Lodge, No. ..., for the present term, and until the installation of your successor: and, as it will be your duty to preside at the meetings of the Lodge, much of the peace, harmony and prosperity thereof will depend upon you. It is therefore necessary that you should deeply impress on your mind the important duties of your station. Among them, we would particularly bring to your notice the necessity of requiring the regular indications of good standing of every person who desires to visit your Lodge. Admit none unless it may be your own members, without it. In the performance of your duties, act without fear or partiality; be zealous, yet temper your zeal

with prudence, and maintain in yourself a tranquil temper, a generous disposition, and an unsullied character, that your decisions and instructions may be received with respect, and attentively observed. You are bound to obey the laws of the Grand Lodge, and to execute those of the Lodge over which you preside: you must therefore screen none who may violate them, and enforce the transaction of Lodge business with punctuality and despatch.

Worthy Vice Grand:

You must carefully attend to the support of order in the Lodge; and at all times, when the Noble Grand is otherwise engaged, his duties will devolve upon you; and should he at any time omit anything appertaining to his office, it will be not only your privilege, but your duty to apprise him thereof.

In the following charge, the parts in italic will be omitted when there is a Permanent Secretary.

Worthy Secretary:

You are charged with the care of the books of the Lodge; you must keep a record of the proceedings of every Lodge meeting; you must fill up all summonses; and write all letters and communications that may be ordered by the Noble Grand.

You must be punctual, correct and faithful in the discharge of your office. *You must keep your accounts regularly posted, so that no dispute arise, and be ready at all times to render to the Noble Grand, statements of arrears of the brethren, so that their rights be not abused:* and no person is privileged to interfere with your books, except the Noble Grand, the M. W. Grand Master, or the R. W. Deputy Grand Master of your district. At the end of your term, you will render a faithful report of the work of the Lodge for the Grand Lodge, and every assistance to the committee appointed to examine the books, &c., that they may require.

Worthy Treasurer:

You have in charge the funds of this Lodge; be correct, careful and honest, and secure the Lodge against any loss, or possibility of loss, by or through you. On the proper management of the fiscal concerns of a Lodge, mainly depends its ability to render assistance where it is needed, and at the time it may be required. It is expected of you to keep your accounts in such a manner as to enable you to inform the Lodge of its pecuniary condition; and so that you can at any moment, when called upon, surrender your trust, together with all books, papers and funds in your possession belonging to the Lodge.

Worthy Permanent Secretary:

You are charged with the care of the accounts between this Lodge and its members; you must be punctual, correct and faithful in the discharge of your duty; keep your accounts regularly posted, so that no dispute arise, and be ready at all times to render to the Noble Grand, statements of the arrears of the brethren, so that their rights be not abused. At the end of your term of office, you will prepare for the Grand Lodge, the annual report required by the regulations: and at the end of each term, render such facilities to the committee appointed to examine the books, &c., as may be required by them. No person is at liberty to interfere with your books, &c., except the Noble Grand, the M. W. Grand Master, or the R. W. Deputy Grand Master of your district.

[*On presenting the Warden and Outside Guardian for installation, the Grand Marshal will say: I present you to brother [L. M.,] who has been appointed Warden (or Outside Guardian) of this Lodge, and whom, on examination, I find to have attained the proper degrees for the office.*]

Worthy Warden:

Your duty calls upon you to do all you can while in the Lodge to make the brothers comfortable:

you must examine every person in the room when the Lodge is about to be opened; deliver your charge to candidates at initiation; take care of the regalia of the Lodge; and convey all summonses that may be issued.

Worthy Outside Guardian:

You have charge of the ante-room; you will see that no person shall enter it who cannot prove himself according to the regulations of our Order. You will secure the outer door against improper intrusion; and submit all cases of doubt to the Noble Grand for decision.

Worthy Conductor:

You will receive candidates for initiation in the ante-room, give the charge according to your office, and assist the Worthy Warden while in the Lodge.

Worthy Inside Guardian:

Prove every brother before you admit him, according to the regulations of our Order; see that he is in proper regalia; report his name to the Noble Grand, or when the door is in charge of the Vice Grand, to that officer; and let no one pass out, or return, without the Vice Grand's pass-word of the night.

Worthy R. Supporter of the Noble Grand:

It is your duty to open and close the Lodge in due form; to advise with the Noble Grand, and to take his seat during a temporary absence.

Worthy L. Supporter of the Noble Grand:

It is your duty to see that every brother who enters the room is in proper regalia, and makes his address to the chair.

Worthy R. and L. Supporters of the Vice Grand:

The duties of your stations require you to support the Left Supporter of the Noble Grand in the duty of his office. The R. Supporter will take the seat of the Vice Grand during a temporary absence.

Worthy R. and L. Scene Supporters:

You will assist at initiations according to your offices.

It is expected that the Grand Master will here deliver a short address appropriate to the occasion, if the time will permit; and instruct the Grand Marshal to make the usual declaration.

Grand Marshal. And now by command of the M. W. Grand Master, and in the name, and by the authority of the R. W. Grand Lodge of, of

the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, I do declare the officers of Lodge, No. ..., installed into their respective offices for the current term, in form.

The brethren will answer: So be it.

When the Installing Officers are about to retire, notice will be given to the Noble Grand by the Grand Marshal; the Lodge will rise, and the procession will move out in order, led by the Grand Marshal, and the M. W. Grand Master bringing up the rear.

FORM
OF
FUNERAL PROCESSION,
REGALIA AND SERVICE.

FUNERAL CEREMONY.

REGALIA.

1. *Resolved*, That the Regalia to be worn by all brothers of the Order, when attending the funeral of a deceased brother, be as follows:

A black crape rosette, having a centre of the color of the highest degree to which the wearer may have attained, to be worn on the left breast; above it a sprig of evergreen, and below it (if the wearer be an Elective or Past Officer) the jewel or jewels which as such he may be entitled to wear.

2. *Resolved*, That the ordinary mourning badge to be worn by brothers in memory of a deceased brother, be a strip of black crape passed through one buttonhole only of the left lapel of the coat, and tied with a narrow ribbon of the color of the highest degree to which the bearer may have attained.

[NOTE.—The several State Grand Lodges and Grand Encampments may, at their discretion, permit the usual regalia of the Order to be worn at funerals either in connection with or as a substitute for the simple regalia above described.]

PROCESSION.

3. *Resolved*, That the order of procedure at the funeral of a deceased brother be as follows:

At the appointed hour the Subordinate Lodge of which such brother was a member shall meet at its Lodge-room, and the Noble Grand, or in his absence the Vice Grand, or, in the absence of both, the Senior Past Grand present, shall appoint a Marshal, and such number of Assistant Marshals as may be required; the Lodge shall then pass in procession from the Lodge-room to the place from which the funeral may have been appointed to start, in the following order:

1. The Marshal wearing a black scarf and bearing a baton bound with black crape.

2. The Outside Guardian, bearing a red staff in like mourning.

3. The Scene Supporters, bearing white wands in like mourning.

4. Members of the Initiatory Degree, in order of juniority, two abreast.

5. Members of the White, Pink, Royal Blue, Scarlet and Purple Degrees, respectively, in like order.

6. Members of the Lodge having the Patriarchal, Golden Rule, and Royal Purple Degrees, respectively, in like order.

7. The Past Grands of the Lodge, in order of juniority.

8. The Inside Guardian, bearing the regalia and insignia indicative of the rank in the Order of the deceased brother.

9. The Treasurer, Assistant, Permanent or Financial Secretary or Secretaries, and the Secretary of the Lodge.

10. The Vice Grand, supported by the R. and L. Supporters, each bearing his wand of office bound with a band of black crape.

11. The Chaplain, wearing a white scarf, and supported by the Warden and Conductor, each bearing his staff of office in like mourning.

12. The Noble Grand, supported by his R. and L. Supporters, each bearing his wand of office in like mourning.

Invited brethren will take places with the members of the Lodge, according to their rank. The Lodges, when more than one attend, shall be arranged in order of juniority preceding the Lodge conducting the ceremonies.

On arriving at the place appointed for the starting of the funeral, the brothers shall take position in the above order immediately before the corpse, and shall precede it to the place of interment.

On arriving at such place of interment, the brothers shall open to the right and left, and allow

the corpse, mourners, &c., to pass through, the brothers on either side standing uncovered, the hat held in the left hand of each, and joining hands with each other. And after the passing of the corpse, mourners, &c., between the two lines, the brothers shall re-form in procession after them in reversed order, and close the procession into and within the place of interment.

After the performance of such religious service as the friends of the deceased may cause to be there performed, and before the final closing of the grave, the brothers shall form silently, and as nearly as may be according to the order above set forth, uncovered, the hat in the left hand of each, and joining hands with each other in one or more circles, as regular as the nature of the ground may admit, around the grave, when the Chaplain, or in default of a Chaplain, the N. G. may address the brothers and offer up a prayer, or may address the brethren without the offering of a prayer; and after such address or prayer, or both, or if there be no address or prayer, then after a pause suited to the solemnity of the occasion, the N. G. shall advance singly to the head of the grave, and cast into it, with the right hand, the sprig of evergreen from his regalia, and shall return to his place; whereupon the brothers from left to right in regular succession, and in such numbers at a time as not

to cause confusion, shall advance to the grave, shall cast into it (each with the right hand) the sprig of evergreen from their regalia, and shall return to their place. And after all have done this, and the grave shall have been filled up or closed, the brothers shall silently re-form into procession according to the order observed in coming to the place of interment, and shall return in such order to the Lodge-room, where the N. G. shall declare the funeral ceremonies to be closed.

4. *Resolved*, That if, at the time of his death, the deceased brother was a member of an Encampment, the Encampment may attend the funeral in a body, in order similar to that prescribed for Lodges, and shall take the position in line designated as No. 6; but in all cases the funeral ceremonies shall be conducted by the Subordinate Lodge, except that if the brother was a past or present elective officer of a Grand Lodge or Grand Encampment—then the ceremonies may be conducted by such Grand Lodge or Grand Encampment.

FUNERAL SERVICE.

We are assembled, my brethren, to render the last office which the living may minister to the dead.

Man is born to die. The coffin, the grave, the sepulchre, speak to us in language that cannot be

misunderstood, however unheeded it may be, of "man's latter end." Youth, in its harmlessness and comparative innocency, and manhood, with its wonted vigor and pride of strength, are not more exempt than decrepid and tottering age from the fixed law of being, which dedicates all that is mortal to decay and death.

This truth is inscribed in the great volume of Nature upon its every page. The beautiful and the sublime which the handiwork of the Creator displays on our every side, fearfully associate the unerring certainty of the end of all things, amid the vividness of the moral which they are ever suggesting to the contemplative mind.

Day after day, we are called upon to follow our fellow-creatures to that bourne from whence no traveller returns: but from the house of mourning we go forth again to mingle in the crowded world, heedless perhaps of the precarious tenure of life and the certainty of that end to which all flesh is rapidly tending. He who gives the vigor of body, without warning paralyzes the stout heart and strikes down the athletic frame. The living of to-day become the dead of the morrow.

Men appear upon and disappear from the stage of life, as wave meets wave and parts upon the troubled waters. "In the midst of life we are in death." He whose lips now echo these tones of

solemn warning, in turn will be stilled in the cold and cheerless house of the dead, and in the Providence of God none may escape.

Let us, then, so far improve the lesson as to be prepared for that change which leads to life eternal.

PRAYER.

Our Father and our God, who art the resurrection and the life, in whom whosoever believeth shall live though he die, and whosoever liveth and believeth in Thee shall not die—hear, we beseech Thee, the voice of Thy creatures here assembled, and turn not away from our supplications.

We humbly beseech Thee so to imbue us with a conviction of our entire helplessness and dependence upon Thee, that we may be brought to meditate upon the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death. In the dispensation of Thy Providence, thou hast summoned from amongst us our brother, and we, the surviving monuments of Thy mercy, are gathered together to commit his remains to the earth. Give, O God, we beseech Thee, Thy Holy Spirit to us, whom thou hast spared; increase our knowledge, and confirm our faith in Thee, forever.

[Bless and comfort, we pray Thee, those whom it has pleased Thee to add to the number of the disconsolate; buoy them up under this heavy stroke, sustain them against despondency. O! wilt Thou be

their Father and their God, and pour down from on high Thy blessings upon their heads.] Bless, O Heavenly Father! the brethren here assembled; imbue them with the wisdom of Thy laws, and draw them unto Thee by the cords of Thy inestimable love; impress them with their duty to each other as brethren, and their obligations in the various relations of human life; and, finally, bless our beloved Order throughout the globe. Preserve its principles and its purposes from innovation; sustain it from the shafts of enmity—protect it from self-immolation, and shield it from all evil, and unto Thee we shall render the praise, forever. AMEN.

[NOTE.—The Form of Prayer adopted with Funeral Address and Ceremony is left optional with Lodges or Encampments whether they use it or none; the form prescribed to be used, if any.]

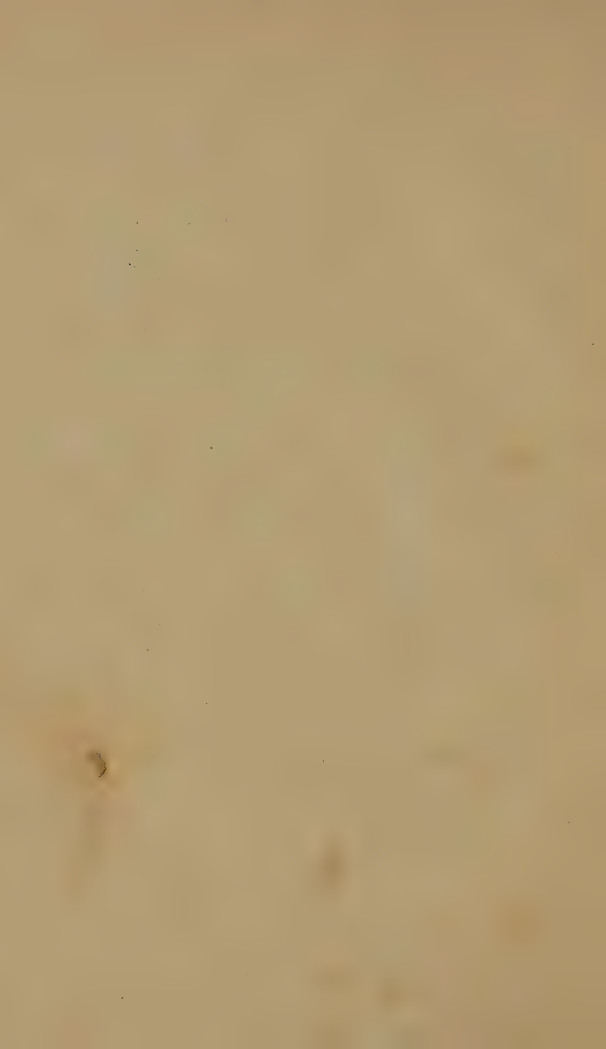
CEREMONY TO BE OBSERVED

IN

LAYING CORNER STONES

OF

PUBLIC EDIFICES.



FORM OF LAYING CORNER STONES

OF PUBLIC EDIFICES.

The following form for Laying Corner Stones of Public Edifices was adopted by the Grand Lodge of the United States at the session of 1860:

CEREMONY TO BE OBSERVED IN LAYING CORNER STONES.

On the day appointed the Lodge will be opened in due form, and the procession formed after the following order, proceed to the foundation of the building:

	OUTSIDE GUARDIAN.	
Two and two.	{ Initiate Members.	} MARSHAL.
	{ First Degree.	
	{ Second Degree.	
	{ Third Degree.	
	{ Fourth Degree.	
	{ Fifth Degree.	
	Past Vice Grands.	
	Past Grands.	

48 CEREMONY FOR LAYING CORNER STONES.

Four P. G's bearing stone on hand barrow.

Scene Supporters.	{ TREASURER with deposits. }	Scene Supporters.
Warden.	{ SECRETARY, bearing copper plate. }	Conductor.
Supporter to V. G.	{ VICE GRAND, with Holy Bible. }	Supporter to V. G.
Past Grand.	{ Banner, borne by a P. G. }	Past Grand.
Supporter.	NOBLE GRAND.	Supporter.
ASS'T MARSHAL.		

INSIDE GUARDIAN.

On arriving at the foundation, the procession will open to the right and left, and change the rear to the front. The Noble Grand will, with his Vice Grand and Supporters, take his position on a platform, to be previously prepared for the purpose, near the stone—the Treasurer and Secretary immediately by the stone. A piece of music may be performed, or an ode sang, after which the principal workman will address the Noble Grand as follows:

Principal Workman.—Most noble sir, being desirous that the foundation stone of this building

should be laid with appropriate ceremonies by your honorable Order, I have, therefore, solicited your attendance upon the present occasion, and hope that it may now be your pleasure to proceed in the performance of that service; the necessary preparations are all made and now await your directions.

Noble Grand.—In compliance with your request, so politely tendered, I now proceed to discharge the duty desired, hoping that the building which will arise upon this foundation may reflect credit upon your skill, and be completed with satisfaction to the owners and profit to the workmen.

The Treasurer will then present to the Noble Grand the things to be deposited—gold and silver coin, laws of the Order, and other things—the Noble Grand receiving them, shall direct the Treasurer to deposit them in the stone, naming them aloud. The Secretary will then present the Noble Grand the copper plate, upon which must be engraven the purpose for which the building is intended, the name and officers of the Lodge by whom the stone is laid, the day of the month and year, together with the name of the then Grand Sire of the United States, Grand Master of State, President of United States, and Governor of State. The Noble Grand will then direct the Secretary to put it in its place, after having read aloud the inscription. The stone is then let down into its place, the Noble Grand proclaiming :

Noble Grand.—In the name of the Grand Lodge of the United States, and the Grand Lodge of the State of, I pronounce the first stone of this building, intended for (here state its object), to be laid in regular form and order.

Brethren.—So be it.

Music.

An Oration.

The procession will then return to the Lodge-room, and the Lodge closed in due form.

FORM FOR LAYING CORNER STONES

OF

ODD-FELLOWS' HALLS.

CEREMONY OF LAYING THE CORNER STONE
OF
AN ODD-FELLOWS' HALL.

If practicable, this ceremony should be performed by the Grand Master, or some Grand Officer duly commissioned by him for that purpose.

Should a Grand Officer not be present, the ceremony may be performed by the Noble Grand or some Past Grand appointed by him.

When the Grand Master, or other Grand Officer officiates, he, with the other Grand Officers and members of the Grand Lodge present, shall assemble with the brethren in the regular Lodge-room, or some appropriate place adjacent to the site of the new building, and proceed in procession, in regalia, to the place of ceremony in the following order:

Grand Marshal of Grand Lodge.

Music.

Marshal of Lodge.

Escort—Lodge Banner—Escort.

Outside Guardian, with drawn sword.

Scene Supporters, with white rods.

54 CEREMONY OF LAYING THE CORNER STONE

Members of the Initiatory Degree, in order of juniority, two abreast.

Members of the White, Pink, Royal Blue, Green and Scarlet Degrees, respectively, in like order.

Inside Guardian, with drawn sword.

Secretaries and Treasurer.

Vice Grand, supported by his R. and L. Supporters, each bearing his wand of office.

The Chaplain, wearing a white scarf, and supported by the Warden and Conductor, each bearing his wand of office.

The Noble Grand, supported by his R. and L. Supporters, each bearing his wand of office.

Marshal of Encampment.

Escort—Encampment Banner—Escort.

Outside Sentinel, with drawn sword.

Members of Patriarchal, Golden Rule and Royal Purple Degrees, in order of juniority.

Inside Sentinel, with drawn sword.

Scribe and Treasurer.

Senior and Junior Wardens, each with crooks.

High Priest, supported by Guards of the Tent, each with a spear.

Chief Patriarch.

Marshal of Grand Encampment.

Escort—Banner of Grand Encampment—Escort.

Grand Sentinel, with drawn sword.

Members of Grand Encampment in order of
juniority.

Grand Senior and Junior Wardens.

Grand Scribe and Grand Treasurer.

M. E. Grand High Priest, supported by two
Past High Priests, carrying crooks.

M. W. Grand Patriarch.

Escort. { Banner of Grand Lodge } Escort.
 { carried by Grand }
 { Herald. }

Grand Guardian, with drawn sword.

Members of Grand Lodge in order of juniority.

Grand Secretary,	Grand Treasurer,
with documents, &c., for	with copper box to be de-
deposit in box.	posited in corner stone.

Grand Chaplain, with open Bible,
on which is laid a wreath of flowers,
supported on the right by the Grand Warden, car-
rying a silver vessel containing water, and
on the left by the Grand Conductor,
carrying a silver vessel, con-
taining wheat.

Deputy Grand Master and Orator.

M. W. Grand Master with gavel.

NOTE.—If no Grand Officer is in attendance, and the ceremony is to be performed by the N. G. or a P. G. by him appointed, the members of the Encampment take their place in the procession immediately after the Scarlet members—then follow the P. G's, then the Sec-

retary and Treasurer—the former carrying the documents, &c., to be deposited in the box, and the latter carrying the copper box to be placed in the corner stone; then the V. G., with his supporters; then the Chaplain, with Bible and wreath of flowers laid thereon, supported by the Warden on the right, carrying a silver vessel containing water, and on the left by the Conductor, carrying a silver vessel containing wheat; then a P. G. with the Orator of the day; then the N. G., with gavel, attended by his proper supporters.

Should the Grand Sire perform the ceremony, and the Grand Lodge of the United States join in the procession, the Grand Marshal of that body (with his aids) takes position at the head of the column, and has charge of the procession: in which case the Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction will take position in front of his Grand Lodge, which shall be formed as directed, except that the officers named (Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, &c.,) shall appear without the articles to be used in laying the corner stone.

The Grand Lodge of the United States will take position immediately after the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction in the following order:

Escort.	{	Banner of Grand Lodge of the United States, carried by Grand Messenger.	}	Escort.
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Grand Guardian, with drawn sword.

Representatives and P. G. Representatives according to juniority of jurisdictions.

Past Grand Sires according to juniority.

G. C. & R. Secretary, with documents, &c., for deposit in box.		Grand Treasurer, with copper box to be de- posited in corner stone.
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Grand Chaplain, with open Bible,
on which is laid a wreath of flowers,
supported on the right by a Grand Representative,
carrying a silver vessel containing water, and
on the left by a Grand Representative,
carrying a silver vessel con-
taining wheat.

Deputy Grand Sire and Orator.

M. W. Grand Sire, with gavel, supported by two
P. G. Sires.

The procession, on reaching a convenient distance from the place of destination, will halt and open to the right and left, so as to allow the principal officers to pass through; the remainder of the brethren, closing up in reversed order, will pass three times around the site of the building, (if convenient,) while the officiating officers take their places on a raised platform, erected contiguous to the northeast angle of the building, where the corner stone is to be laid.

**Grand Master.*—My brethren, we have assembled on this occasion to perform an interesting and

*Should the ceremony be performed by the Grand Sire, the title of that officer should be substituted for that of Grand Master. A Grand Officer, or a P. G. acting for and under a commission from the Grand Master, shall be addressed by the title of Grand Master. If the ceremony is performed by the N. G., or a P. G. by him appointed, the title of N. G. shall be used.

important ceremony; one which we trust will have its proper influence upon your hearts and minds. The spot on which we stand has been selected upon which to erect a Temple to be consecrated to the great principles of our Order; and we are here to-day to inaugurate the enterprise by laying the first foundation, or corner stone, in the structure with the solemn ceremonies befitting such an occasion.

The work so auspiciously begun can be consummated only by persevering effort and patient industry; and we should enter upon it with a determination to carry it forward to completion, until its cap-stone shall be brought with rejoicings, and the edifice shall present beauty, symmetry and proportion every way adapted to the uses and purposes for which it is designed.

Before proceeding to the immediate duties of the occasion, it is right and proper that we invoke the Divine blessing, without which no good work can succeed. Our Grand Chaplain will now address the Throne of Grace.

The Grand Master gives three raps with the gavel.

Grand Chaplain.—O Thou who didst lay the foundations of the earth, and in whom alone we live and move and have our being, we beseech Thee of Thy great goodness to command Thy

blessing to rest upon the work which we this day begin: honor it with Thine approving smile, and prosper it to its final accomplishment and to the glory of Thy great name, and the happiness of all mankind.—Amen.

Response by the brethren.—So may it be!

The Grand Secretary will then read the record to be deposited in the stone, with a list of the documents, coin, &c., and hand the list, with the articles to be deposited, to the Grand Treasurer, who will place the same in the box. The Grand Master, accompanied by the Grand Warden, Grand Conductor, Grand Chaplain and Grand Treasurer, will then descend to the stone. The Grand Treasurer will then present the box to the Grand Master, who will place it in the cavity prepared for it, and adjust the lid. The stone will then be fitted accurately to its place.

Grand Master—(receiving from the Grand Warden the vessel containing water.)—In the name of Friendship as pure as this water—(sprinkling it three times upon the stone)—I lay this corner stone; and as it here forms the basis of this edifice, binding together in harmony and consistency the component parts of its superstructure, so may true Friendship ever constitute the foundation of our social fabric, and unite the family of man in one fraternal brotherhood.

Response by the brethren.—So may it be!

Grand Master—(receiving from the *Grand Chaplain* the wreath of flowers.)—In Love, symbolized by these flowers—(strewing them three times over the stone)—I lay this corner stone; and as it underlies and supports this material temple, so may Love ever be the chief foundation stone of the moral Temple of our Order; and the divine sentiment of Love ever animate the hearts of all its votaries.

Response by the brethren.—So may it be!

Grand Master—(receiving from the *Grand Conductor* the vessel containing wheat.) In Truth, represented by this wheat,—(strewing it three times over the stone)—I lay this corner stone; trusting that Truth may ever prevail over error; and that its good seed, sown in our hearts, may bring forth its peaceful fruits in our lives. May the building here to be erected for the inculcation of Truth, ever remain unshaken by the storms of time; and our beloved Order ever rest securely upon the Rock of Ages.

Response by the brethren.—So may it be!

Grand Master—(giving three blows of the gavel upon the stone.)—In Benevolence and Charity, I lay this corner stone, earnestly praying that as it is firmly fixed in this solid foundation, so may

those cardinal virtues immutably repose in our organization, and be the constant practice of our Order.

Response by the brethren.—So may it be !

The Architect will then deliver a trowel, with mortar, to the Grand Master, who shall spread it upon the corner stone, and fix thereon a corresponding stone.

Grand Master.—As this cement binds together the stones of the wall, so may the cement of brotherly affection bind us together during all the days of our lives here below ; and so may the cement of Divine Love, in our Father's own good time, unite us as living stones in the Temple above, the "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

Response by the brethren.—So may it be !

The Grand Master and other officers will then return to the platform.

Grand Master.—The Deputy Grand Master will now make the proper proclamation.

Deputy Grand Master.—By direction of the Most Worthy Grand Master, I declare this corner stone duly laid according to regular and ancient form ; and the building that is to rise upon it, devoted to the principles and work of Odd-Fellowship.

Grand Master.—The Grand Chaplain will now address the Throne of Grace.

The Grand Master gives three blows with the gavel.

Grand Chaplain.—Almighty Architect of the Universe, who spake, and it was done; who commanded, and it stood fast; accept, we humbly pray Thee, the work of our hands this day performed, and strengthen us by Thy blessing to build upon this corner stone a Temple in which shall be taught the great principles of Friendship, Love and Truth, and where Benevolence and Charity shall ever exercise their kindly offices, and be a safe refuge from the deluge of man's passions and the discordant elements of faction and selfishness.

Let Thy blessing abide with those who have zealously undertaken the work of building this edifice, and may they be enabled by Thy good Providence to carry it forward to entire completion. Bless, we pray Thee, those who are engaged in the construction of the building; preserve them by Thy mighty power from danger and accident while thus employed. Surround them with Thy protecting care, and may their health and lives be precious in Thy sight and keeping.

We earnestly invoke the continued smile of Thy approving countenance upon our wide spread and beneficent Order. Give to it, we beseech

Thee, the guidance of Thy Holy Spirit, and prosper it in the thing whereunto Thou hast ordained it. Give it success in all its aims and efforts to benefit mankind. May it ever build upon the sure foundations of Truth and Righteousness; and ever exert a moral influence over the minds and consciences of its entire membership.

Command Thy rich blessing upon the poor, the needy, the friendless, and the destitute, and open up the way and the means for their relief. Bless the widow and the orphan in their affliction, and give unto us sympathizing hearts and open hands to aid them and provide for their wants.

And we pray Thee, God of Love, that the period may soon come when discord and strife and war shall cease from the face of the earth, and the reign of peace shall be universally established—when the law of Love shall control all hearts; and the nations, tribes and kindreds of the earth shall be united together as a band of brothers, and shall acknowledge Thee as their Father; and to Thee we will ascribe all majesty, power and dominion now and forever.—AMEN.

Grand Master.—Brethren of, the duty assigned us has been performed. We have begun a good work, which it remains for you to finish. Having entered upon so important an enterprise, fail not in carrying it forward to success, which I

am confident you will achieve. I trust you will here erect a Temple worthy of being dedicated to the great cause of Humanity, and which will reflect honor upon your zeal in its behalf.

The Grand Master gives three blows with the gavel.

Grand Chaplain.—*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up his fatherly countenance upon you, and give you peace.—
AMEN.

Oration.

The procession will then re-form in the same order and return to the place of starting.

*The benediction of the Grand Chaplain may be pronounced *after* the oration, if desired.

FORM OF DEDICATION

OF AN

ODD-FELLOWS' HALL

OR

LODGE ROOM.

FORM OF DEDICATION

OF AN

‘ODD-FELLOWS’ HALL OR LODGE ROOM.

This ceremony may be performed in the presence of a general audience, or in a Lodge room, with closed doors. If others than members are present, *the honors will be omitted*, and the Grand Officers will enter in due procession, and take their appropriate seats. If admission is restricted to members of the Order, a Lodge will be first opened in due form and the Guardians stationed at the doors. The Grand Lodge Officers, properly clothed, will form in another apartment, and approach the outer door, at which the Grand Herald will give the usual alarm.

Outside Guardian.—Who comes there?

Grand Herald.—The M. W. Grand Master and other officers of the R. W. Grand Lodge of, who desire to be admitted, in the name of Friendship, Love, and Truth, for the purpose of dedicating this Hall to the uses of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, and the diffusion of Benevolence and Charity.

Outside Guardian.—Enter, in the name of Friendship, Love and Truth.

The same dialogue will occur at the inner door, with the Inside Guardian, after which the Grand Lodge Officers will enter the room and take their respective seats, the four brethren appointed as Heralds having seats in front of the Grand Master, when the grand honors will be given. The building will then be delivered to the Grand Master, as follows, by the Noble Grand, or Chairman of the Building Committee, who deposits the keys of the same upon the pedestal. The Grand Officers occupying their appropriate seats, the exercises proceed as follows :

Grand Chaplain.—Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings, with Thy most precious favor, and further us with Thy continual help ; that in all our works begun, continued and ended in Thee, we may glorify Thy holy name, and, finally, by Thy mercy, obtain everlasting life.—AMEN.

The Lodge being called up, the brethren will unite in singing the following ode :

O D E.

Brethren of our friendly Order,
 Honor here asserts her sway,
 All within our sacred border
 Must her high commands obey.
 Join, Odd-Fellowship of brothers,
 In the song of Truth and Love ;
 Leave disputes and strife to others,
 We in harmony must move.

Honor to her courts invites us,
 Worthy subjects let us prove;
 Strong the chain that here unites us,
 Link'd with Friendship, Truth and Love.
 In our hearts enshrined and cherished,
 May these feelings ever bloom—
 Failing not when life has perished,
 Living still beyond the tomb.

Grand Marshal.—Is it the will and the pleasure of the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows of the State of, that the ceremony of dedicating this Hall to the business and purposes of Odd-Fellowship do now proceed?

Grand Master.—Such is my will and pleasure.

The Noble Grand, President of the Hall, Association, or Committee, will then say:

Noble Grand.—M. W. Grand Master: We meet you here to-day to announce that the work in which we have been engaged is finished, and our temple is at last ready to shelter us within its walls. It is not the business of the committee to allude to their own labors, nor the manner in which those labors have been performed; nor would good taste permit them to descant on the fitness of our edifice for the sacred purpose to which it is designed. It is capable of speaking for itself through

its proportions and its style. If these fail to impress you, any words of mine would prove worse than useless. I have only to repeat that our work is finished, and in behalf of Lodge, No. ..., and of the Order in this place, I make request that this Hall be set apart and dedicated to the business and purposes of Odd-Fellowship.

Grand Master.—Noble Grand, (or Mr. President of Odd-Fellows' Hall Committee :) In the name of and in behalf of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows of the State of, I accept, for dedication to the uses of Odd-Fellowship, this Hall, which has been constructed under your supervision. To you and your associates the present must be an occasion especially gratifying. To-day you witness the consummation of that for which you have ardently toiled and hoped ; to-day you hail the completion of that for which you have zealously and faithfully labored, and to-day you behold the recognition by your brethren, from the North, the South, the East, and the West, of this, the result of your efforts, as a Temple devoted to the service of those whose vocation is to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead, educate the orphan—duties which neither interfere with nor supersede the discharge of any other, social, moral, or religious.

Brethren, I congratulate you upon the completion of this beautiful Hall, which we are about to dedicate to those cardinal virtues which should adorn and elevate humanity, and the names of which we have selected as the motto and watchword of our beloved Order. Beneath this roof you are to encourage one another in the duties of benevolence and charity; before this altar the good works of Friendship, Love and Truth are ever to be presented as the only acceptable sacrifices. From hence, as from a perennial fountain, are to flow the gentle streams of true Friendship, to gladden and make green many waste places. In this quiet retreat are to be cultivated those flowers that Love unfeigned shall scatter on the rugged pathway of life, under many bleeding feet. Here is to be sown the good seed of Truth in many hearts, to spring up and yield its hundred-fold harvest. It is, therefore, not so much this Temple made with hands that should occupy our attention at present, as the great principles that are here to be disseminated. I hope and trust, brethren, that our united efforts, with those of our brethren throughout the globe, may lead to the raising and adorning of a still nobler Temple, which shall be consecrated by the approval of the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe, without the invocation of whose blessing no work should be undertaken.

The Grand Master calls up the members of the Order.

Grand Chaplain.—Almighty God: the maker of all worlds; whom we are taught to approach and call by the tender name—Father; we would humbly draw near and beg Thy blessing on the work in which we are engaged; whatever is amiss in us, do Thou make right by Thy Divine Power, and in all things do Thou overrule our thoughts and deeds to Thy greater glory and the good of our fellow men.—AMEN.

Grand Master.—I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Response.—Our feet shall stand within Thy gates, O Jerusalem!

Grand Master.—Jerusalem is built as a city that is compact together (at unity in itself.)

Response.—Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

Grand Master.—For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Response.—Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love Thee.

Grand Master.—Peace be within Thy walls, and prosperity within Thy palaces.

Response.—For my brethren and companion's sakes, I will now say, peace be within Thee!

Grand Master.—Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek Thy good.

Response.—So be it.

Grand Master.—Hear, hear, hear, all men: By authority, and in the name of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows of the State of, I dedicate this Hall to the business and purposes of Odd-Fellowship, to disseminate Friendship, Love and Truth, and to diffuse Benevolence and Charity in their fullest extent, to all its worthy members, and by this solemn act I hereby declare it duly dedicated.

Grand Master.—The Grand Marshal will please cause this dedication to be appropriately proclaimed.

Grand Marshal.—Brothers Grand Heralds of the North, of the South, of the East, and of the West: By the solemn act of the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of, this Hall is duly dedicated to the business and purposes of Odd-Fellowship, to disseminate Friendship, Love and Truth, Faith, Hope and Charity, in their fullest

extent, to all its worthy members. It is his will and pleasure that the same be proclaimed, which duty you will perform.

Herald of the North.—Hear all men: By command of the M. W. Grand Master, and in the name of Friendship, as pure, refreshing and life-giving as this water, [*sprinkling it,*] I dedicate this Hall to the practice of that ennobling virtue, which, uniting men as brethren, teaches them to sustain that relation at all times, each in his turn helping and helped, blessing and blessed.

Response.—Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity, for these the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

Herald of the South.—Hear all men: By command of our M. W. Grand Master, I proclaim this Hall dedicated to Love, world-wide and ever-enduring, [*lights the fire on the altar,*] and may the fire that is this day kindled upon the altar of our hearts be as perpetual as that which burned upon the altar in the secret tabernacle of the Most High, of which this is but a feeble emblem.

Response.—Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not Charity, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal; Charity never faileth.

Herald of the East.—Hear all men: By command of our M. W. Grand Master, I proclaim this Hall dedicated to the inculcation and cultivation of Truth, [*scattering wheat,*] and may the good seed here sown, of which this is the emblem, like the grain sown broadcast on the earth, spring up again an hundred fold, for future use and blessing, and may that ennobling virtue, which lies at the foundation of all other virtues, and which, devoid of guile and hypocrisy, teach us sincerity and plain dealing in all our communications, and earnestness in the inculcation of whatever is good and true.

Response.—He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart, O Lord, shall abide in Thy Tabernacle and shall dwell in Thy Holy Hill.

Herald of the West.—Hear all men: By command of our M. W. Grand Master, I proclaim this Hall dedicated to Faith, Hope and Charity. Those graces, like these flowers, [*strewing flowers,*] fill the common air with fragrance, beauty and adorn all on whom they fall. The practice of these highest virtues is in itself the fulfilling of that law which commands us to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead and educate the orphan.

Response.—A good man sheweth favor and lendeth; he will guide his affairs with discretion; he

hath dispersed; he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth forever; his horn shall be exalted with honor.

Grand Marshal.—M. W. Grand Master: Proclamation has been sent forth to the four quarters of the globe that all men may hear and know that the principles of Odd-Fellowship have here a dwelling place.

Grand Master—(*Calling up the Lodge.*)—The Grand Chaplain will now address the Throne of Grace.

Grand Chaplain.—We humbly beseech Thee, O God, to bless the work in which we have now been engaged. Let the lessons we have received sink deep into our hearts, so that this shall have been to us no idle ceremony, but a means of edification in righteousness, and truth, and humanity. May we all leave this place with our good resolutions strengthened, our charities enlarged, and our hearts expanded in all embracing love toward our brethren of every tongue and clime. Bless, O Heavenly Father, the Order of which we are members; aid us in the good work of Benevolence and Charity, to which we are pledged, and give direction and success to our efforts. Bless this edifice in the promotion of the good objects to which it has this day

been set apart. Let Thy protecting care be over the brethren who here shall meet together; keep their feet upon the right path, and guide them by Thy power in the way everlasting; make them faithful to their duties and zealous in every good word and work, so that when the solemn close of life comes, the soul of each may be stayed on Thee; and unto Thee, our God and Father, be ascribed glory and dominion and power world without end. AMEN.

Grand Master, (first calling down the Lodge.)— My brethren: I trust that the solemn ceremonies of this occasion may not be lost upon our hearts. In setting apart this Hall for its noble purposes, we have renewed our vows to practice conscientiously the lessons of our beloved Order. Let us never forget the imperative command of our laws, "to visit the sick, to relieve the distressed, to bury the the dead, and educate the orphan." Let us not forget, moreover, that besides these good works of charity, Odd-Fellowship has high and important lessons to inculcate; lessons that, if attentively listened to and practiced by all, would elevate the character of man, and hasten the coming of the promised day of universal peace and love.

Brethren of Lodge, we now again deliver into your hands this beautiful Temple you have elevated to our Order. Joy be within its walls and

Peace a constant guest! May these walls never echo with the sound of an angry or unkind word. May all the influences that flow hence be good and for good, now and forever.—AMEN.

Calls up the Lodge.

Grand Chaplain.—Now, unto Him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, I commend you and the whole family of man; and to Him, the only wise God, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, now and forever.—AMEN.

Here follows oration.

FORMS

OF

CERTIFICATE OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVE

Petitions for Lodges and Encampments,

CARDS, RETURNS, &c.

FORMS

OF

CERTIFICATE OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVE,
PETITIONS FOR LODGES AND ENCAMP-
MENTS, CARDS, RETURNS, &c.

Certificate of Grand Representative.

FRIENDSHIP, LOVE AND TRUTH.

*To the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States
of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows:*

THIS CERTIFIES, That P. G. has been
duly elected (or appointed) Representative from
the Grand Lodge (or Grand Encampment) of
..... to the Grand Lodge of the United States.

Witness our hands and the seal of the Grand
....., this day of

A..... B....., *G. Master, (or G. Patriarch.)*
C..... D....., *G. Secretary, (or G. Scribe.)*

Petition for a Warrant of a Subordinate Lodge.

To the Grand Sire, Officers and Members

of the Grand Lodge of the United States:

The Petition of the undersigned, holding Withdrawal Cards from Lodges legally recognized by your R. W. Body, respectfully represent that it would be consistent with the advantage of the Order to establish a Subordinate Lodge to be located at, in the State of Wherefore your Petitioners pray that a Warrant may duly issue in pursuance of the laws of your R. W. Body.

Dated at this day of

Petition for a Warrant of a Subordinate Encampment.

To the Grand Sire, Officers and Members

of the Grand Lodge of the United States:

The Petition of the undersigned Patriarchs, holding Withdrawal Cards from legal Encampments, (or instructed in the Encampment Degrees under commission of the Grand Sire,) respectfully represents that it would be consistent with the advantage of the Order to establish a Subordinate Encampment to be located at, in the State of Wherefore your Petitioners pray that a

Warrant may duly issue in pursuance of the laws of your R. W. G. Body.

Dated at this day of

NOTE.—The fee of \$30 must accompany the petition; for which the warrant and necessary working books will be supplied. If any other supplies are needed, such as Odes, Cards, Digest, Book of Forms, &c., the necessary cost thereof must also be sent.

Petition for a Grand Lodge or Grand Encampment.

To the Grand Sire, Officers and Members

of the Grand Lodge of the United States:

The Petition of Lodge, (or Encampment,) No. 1, No. 2, No. 3,* of respectfully represents that at present they work under warrants granted by your R. W. G. Body, and at present they have Past Grands (or Past Chief Patriarchs) in good standing. They are of opinion that it would be of advantage to the Order to establish a Grand Lodge (or Grand Encampment) in the They therefore pray your R. W. G. Body to grant a charter for a Grand Lodge (or Grand Encampment) in the, to be located at

Witness our hands and seals thisday of, 18.....

A..... B....., *Representative of No. 1.*

C..... D....., *Representative of No. 2.*

E..... F....., *Representative of No. 3.*

*Ten Lodges or five Encampments, as the case may be, must apply, unless specially otherwise allowed by the Grand Lodge of the United States.

*Form of Card presented to a Wife or Widow of an
Odd-Fellow.*

FRIENDSHIP, LOVE AND TRUTH.

To all whom these presents shall come, Greeting :

This certifies that, whose name is endorsed on the margin of this card, in her own proper hand writing, is the wife of our well beloved brother, who (is) a member of Lodge, No., held at, and working under the authority of a charter duly granted by authority of the R. W. Grand Lodge of the We therefore recommend her to your friendship and protection wherever she may be throughout the world, for the space of, and no longer.

In witness whereof, we have subscribed our names and affixed the seal of our Lodge, this day of, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and

NOTE.—A Subordinate Lodge may, by a two-third vote, grant a card to a wife or widow of any member thereof. The Grand Lodge of the United States does not furnish cards for wife or widow or Daughter of Rebekah—and they may be written or printed by Lodges issuing them.

Card for Daughters of Rebekah.

FRIENDSHIP, LOVE AND TRUTH.

I. O. O. F.

To all whom these presents shall come, greeting:

This certifies that our well beloved sister, whose name is endorsed on the margin of this card, in her own proper hand-writing, has been duly initiated into the Degree of the Daughter of Rebekah, and is the of our brother, who a member of Lodge, No. ..., held at, and working under authority of a charter duly granted by authority of the R. W. Grand Lodge of We therefore recommend her to your friendship, aid and protection, wherever she may be, throughout the world, for the space of and no longer.

In witness whereof, we have subscribed our names and affixed the seal of our Lodge, this day of in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and

[SEAL.]

..... N. G.

..... V. G.

..... Secretary.

NOTE.—A card may be granted to a Daughter of Rebekah by the Lodge of which her husband is or was a member.

Annual Report of the R. W. Grand Lodge of to the R. W.

No. of Lodges.....	
No. of initiations.....	
No. of rejections.....	
No. admitted by card.....	
No. withdrawn by card.....	
No. of reinstatements.....	
No. of suspensions.....	
No. of expulsions.....	
No. of deaths.....	
No. of members.....	
No. of brothers relieved.....	
No. of widowed families relieved.....	
Amount paid for the relief of brothers.....	
Amount paid for the relief of widowed families.....	
Amount paid for the education of orphans.....	
Amount paid for burying the dead.....	
Total relief.....	
Amount of annual receipts.....	

SUMMARY.

No. of members per last report.....	
Initiated during the year.....	
Admitted by card during the year.....	
Reinstated during the year.....	
Total.....	
Expelled.....	
Withdrawn by card.....	
Suspended.....	
Deceased.....	
Total.....	
Now in membership.....	

Grand Lodge of the United States, for the year ending June 30, 18....

EXPULSIONS.

Names—from what Lodge expelled, and cause of expulsion.

SUSPENSIONS.

Names—from what Lodge suspended, and cause of suspension, except for non-payment of dues.

Time and Place of Meeting.

Names of Grand Officers.

Post Office Address.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and the seal of the Grand Lodge of the State of, this day of, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and

[L. S.]

..... *Grand Master,*

..... *Grand Secretary.*

Annual Report of the R. W. Grand Encampment of to the R. W.

No. of Encampments.....	
No. of initiations.....	
No. of rejections.....	
No. admitted by card.....	
No. withdrawn by card.....	
No. of reinstatements.....	
No. of suspensions.....	
No. of expulsions.....	
No. of deaths.....	
No. of members.....	
No. of Patriarchs relieved.....	
No. of widowed families relieved.....	
Amount paid for the relief of Patriarchs.....	
Amount paid for the relief of widowed families.....	
Amount paid for the education of orphans,....	
Amount paid for burying the dead.....	
Total relief.....	
Amount of annual receipts.....	

SUMMARY.

No. of members per last report.....	
Initiated during the year.....	
Admitted by card during the year.....	
Reinstated during the year.....	
Total.....	
Expelled.....	
Withdrawn by card.....	
Suspended.....	
Deceased.....	
Total.....	
Now in membership.....	

Grand Lodge of the United States, for the year ending June 30, 18...

EXPULSIONS.

Names—from what Encampment expelled, and cause of expulsion.

SUSPENSIONS.

Names—from what Encampment suspended, and cause of suspension, except for non-payment of dues.

Time and Place of Meeting.

Names of Grand Officers.

Post Office Address.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and the seal of the Grand Encampment of the State of, this day of, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and

[L. S.]

..... *Grand Patriarch.*

..... *Grand Scribe.*

ANNUAL RETURNS shall be made by each State, District or Territorial Grand Lodge or Grand Encampment, in which they shall give the names of Grand Officers, number of Lodges, and the aggregate number of members in good standing in all Subordinate Lodges, and the aggregate number of initiations, of reinstatements, rejections, suspensions and cause, expulsions and cause, admissions by card, withdrawals by card, of brothers relieved, of widowed families relieved, deaths, amount expended for relief of brothers, amount expended for education of orphans, amount paid for burying the dead, and the whole amount of receipts; forms for which shall be furnished by this Grand Lodge. Said returns shall be made to the Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary at least one month previous to the annual meeting of this Body, and shall be accompanied with the dues thereon, in money current at par in the place where the meeting of this Body is held.—*Article ten, By-Laws.*

Resolved, That it is hereby made the duty of Scribes and Secretaries of Grand Encampments and Grand Lodges, at the time of making their annual returns to the Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary of this Grand Lodge, to furnish therewith the post-office addresses of their respective Grand Patriarchs, Grand Scribes, Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries.

Resolved, That Grand Secretaries and Grand Scribes be also instructed to furnish the times and places of the annual sessions of their respective Grand Bodies.—*Journal 1857, page 2734.*

Instructions to Grand Secretaries and Grand Scribes.

When Subordinates fail to report, you will consider them, in making your report to this Grand Lodge, as returning the same number of members as in their last report.

When a Subordinate is expelled, you will enter the number of members last reported as "expelled," and state the cause.

When a Subordinate forfeits its charter, or becomes extinct by failing to report, you will (unless cards are issued to the members by officers of the Grand Bodies) enter the number of members last reported as "suspended," and state the cause.

When a Subordinate has its charter returned, and is recognized, the number of members receiving the charter are to be returned as "*reinstated*," unless they hold withdrawal cards or certificates, in which case all holders of cards or certificates are to be entered as "*admitted by card*."

When withdrawal cards or (certificates having the same effect) are issued by officers of Grand Bodies to members of defunct Subordinates who have been previously returned as "*suspended* or "*expelled*," you will enter them as "*reinstated*" and "*withdrawn by card*."

In the first return from a newly organized Grand Body the number of members in the Subordinates should be entered as "*admitted by card*," and the Body to which they were previously attached should enter them as "*withdrawn by card*."

All members reported by Subordinates as "*dropped*," should be entered as "*suspended*," and those reported as "*resigned*," should be entered as "*withdrawn by card*."

The names of those expelled and suspended "*for offence*," should be entered and "*numbered*."

Resolved, That the particular attention of Grand Secretaries and Grand Scribes, and the Secretaries of Subordinate Lodges and Scribes of Subordinate Encampments under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be directed to the importance of using their best efforts to procure correct reports of the work of the Subordinates.

Form for Report for a Lodge under the immediate jurisdiction of the
G. L. U. S.

Semi-Annual Report of Lodge, No., of the of to the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States,
I. O. O. F., for the term ending

Names of persons initiated.	Names of brothers admitted by Card.	Names of applicants rejected.	Names of brothers withdrawn.	Names of brothers suspended.	Cause of suspension.	Names of brothers expelled.	Cause of expulsion.	Names of brothers reinstated.	Names of brothers deceased.																																																												
<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">SUMMARY.</td> <td colspan="2">RECEIPTS.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Initiated</td> <td>Contributions.</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Admitted by card.</td> <td>Initiations.</td> <td>Dollars.</td> <td>Cents.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rejected</td> <td>Admissions.</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Withdrawn</td> <td>Cards.</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Suspended.</td> <td>Degrees.</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expelled.</td> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reinstated.</td> <td>Per centage due R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States.</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deceased</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Degrees conferred</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Members in good stand'g</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elective officers for the ensuing term.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>N. G.</td> <td>G.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>V. G.</td> <td>S.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>S. T.</td> <td>P.</td> </tr> </table>										SUMMARY.		RECEIPTS.		Initiated	Contributions.			Admitted by card.	Initiations.	Dollars.	Cents.	Rejected	Admissions.			Withdrawn	Cards.			Suspended.	Degrees.			Expelled.	Total			Reinstated.	Per centage due R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States.			Deceased				Degrees conferred				Members in good stand'g				Elective officers for the ensuing term.						N. G.	G.			V. G.	S.			S. T.	P.
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[L. s.]

ATTEST,

.....Secretary.

.....N. G.
.....V. G.

Semi-Annual Report of Encampment, No. of the of to the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States, I. O. O. F., for the term ending

Form for Report for an Encampment under the immediate jurisdiction of the G. L. U. S.

Names of broth's initiated.	Names of Patri's exalted.	Names of Patri's admit'd by Card.	Names of appli-cants rejected.	Names of Patri's withdrawn.	Names of Patri's suspended.	Cause of suspen-sion.	Names of Patri's expelled.	Cause of expul-sion.	Names of Patri's reinstated.	Names of Patri's deceased.	<p>SUMMARY.</p> <p>Initiated Admitted by card... Rejected..... Withdrawn Suspended..... Expelled..... Reinstated Deceased..... Degrees conferred.. Mem'rs in good sta'g Elective officers for the ensuing term..</p> <p>C. H. S. T. P. P. P. S.</p>		<p>RECEIPTS.</p> <p>Contributions. Initiations Admissions Cards..... Degrees..... Total Per centage due R.W. Grand Lodge of the United States.</p>	Dollars.	Cents.
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..... C. P.
 H. P.

.....Scribe.

ATTEST,

[L. s.]

Form of Letter for transmitting the A. T. P. W.

If a brother, applying for a visiting or final card, be absent from the location of his Lodge or Encampment, so that he cannot obtain the A. T. P. W. with his card in person, it shall be the duty of the proper officers, upon the granting of such card, to transmit the same to the brother, and also send therewith a letter in the following form to wit:

..... Lodge, (or Encampment,) No. ..., }
 Of State of..... }
 day of, 18..... }

To the Noble Grand of any Lodge of the I. O. O. F.

(or Chief Patriarch of any Encampment:)

The bearer, brother or (Patriarch), holding a legal card from this dated this day of, 18...., for the period of months, is entitled to the A. T. P. W. for the current year, which please communicate to him after due examination, whereupon you will retain or destroy this letter.

[SEAL.]

..... *N. G. or (C. P.)*

ATTEST,

..... *Secretary (or Scribe.)*

NOTE.—Should the letter be sent in another year subsequent to the year in which the card is issued, as, for instance, when the card is dated in December of one year, and the letter dated in January of the ensuing year; or in the case of issuing a duplicate card in the place of the one lost, then the words “current year” in the letter

should be omitted, and the words *year in which the card is dated*, or the words *that year*, should be inserted. The Grand Lodge of the United States has decided "that the A. T. P. W. required of a brother to prove himself in possession of when he offers to visit a Subordinate Lodge on a visiting or unexpired withdrawal card, or is an applicant for membership therein by the deposit of a proper card, is the A. T. P. W. for the year in which the card was issued or bears date." See Journal 3876, 3953, 3987.

Care should be taken in writing the letter in all cases, so that the brother to whom it is sent should receive the proper A. T. P. W.

ODD-FELLOWSHIP--WHAT IS IT?

ODD-FELLOWSHIP—WHAT IS IT?

This question has doubtless presented itself to many who know nothing of Odd-Fellowship, except perchance from common report, or the vague suggestions of a morbid prejudice; hence it is often condemned as an idle organization, characterized, as its name would seem to import, rather for levity than for fidelity to the noble object at which it professes so earnestly and exclusively to aim. To correct so common an error, to remove such unjust prejudices, and to secure for Odd-Fellowship the approving sentiment it so well deserves, are the objects of this brief paper. In the confidence of conscious merit, it courts a scrutiny into its principles and practices, with the assurance that an enlightened public opinion will render an impartial judgment on the standard of excellence which pervades the one, and the practical benefits that flow from the other.

ITS NAME.

The name often confuses and perplexes intelligent and liberal minded people. Why, it is asked, assume a designation so singular, if the object be

excellent, and such as all good men would commend? The candid inquiry should be, what is the object, what the fruit of the tree claimed to be prolific of good? If the suggestion should be made why Free Masonry is so called, practical masonry forming at this day no part of its work, the reply would doubtless be, that, although such is the fact, it does not follow that the name is idle or inappropriate, since there may be a fitness in its application of an entirely independent character. The name of Free Masonry may, and actually does import, associations significant of and inseparable from the origin of the Order. Having had its beginning centuries ago with the artisans of the masonic craft, for their mutual protection and recognition, and the advancement of their noble art, the history of its early struggles to maintain its universality, and a thousand other hallowed memories connected with its progress amid the fall of empires and the conflicts of nations, have justly inspired a veneration for its name, notwithstanding its practical appositeness may have ceased to exist. Its name is affectionately cherished by its votaries, because it has lived and moved, and had a prolonged and useful being through the vast past; still lives in the teeming and novel present, and gives promise that it will survive through the distant and pregnant future. So with Odd-Fellowship; it also had its origin with the sons of toil,

and of the same craft, viz. the marble masons of London, at the close of the last century. A wise providence led men, whose daily bread depended upon their daily toil, by association to form a common fund, and thus to secure in health the means of support when prostrated by disease. In its experimental outset, like Free Masonry, it encountered a corresponding ordeal; it had no prestige to smooth its uneven and obstructed pathway; reliant only upon its intrinsic worth, it also has survived obloquy and prejudice for more than half a century, and has lived to attain its present meridian height. Can it excite wonder that these memories, which cluster around the name of Odd-Fellow, should secure for it a love and veneration that overcome and subdue the merely fastidious taste which would discard or shun it? No one can affirm that this name, though the cause of much prejudice, has not been, in a proportionate degree, an element of success. Conceived in humility, it has achieved and become identified with an honorable distinction. Its good deeds have made it familiar to the public ear, and popular mind. Wherefore, then, the wisdom or the propriety of changing it? Such a change would not now be possible. It cannot be made.

ITS OBJECT.

The idea of Odd-Fellowship at the beginning, instinctive of a wise providence, was, as has been already stated, mutual relief and protection. It was, it is true, a crudely digested system, if system it could be called. This idea, embodied into substantial form, and disciplined by experience and observation, continues to be a vital, although by no means the predominant element of its organization. It assumes, also, as a cardinal office, an earnest and unintermitting care for the moral health of its membership. Man has a moral as well as a physical nature, and, the wants of each being reciprocal, they keep equal pace and move in parallel lines. There is a mutual dependence which controls both. In truth, there is no appetite of the human body more craving and inexorable, than is the insatiate hunger of the human heart for moral support. Infirmary of body, as well as of mind, is common to humanity; and there exists necessarily, as inseparable from this condition, a corresponding natural desire for sympathy. To supply this ever recurring want, Odd-Fellowship addresses itself, by a combination of efforts, in aid of the moral as well as of the physical man. These two aims, happily blended, comprehend its lever power against penury and vice, by which it labors to mitigate as well "the ills to which all flesh is heir," as to elevate and ennoble our nature.

ITS SECRESY.

The term secrecy denotes something hidden, or concealed from the common eye. So as vice and immorality instinctively shun the light, and shrink from its gaze into the darkest recesses, mankind are accustomed to associate evil with every private or secret organization; hence the too general condemnation of Odd-Fellowship and other kindred benevolent societies. Under the prompting of this ordinary prejudgment, it is often asked, with an air of conscious triumph, why "hide your light under a bushel?" This argument, if such it may be called, addresses itself indiscriminately against the merit of every thing which the vulgar eye cannot discern. It is a general, or rather a universal anathema against secrecy in the abstract. To follow where its conclusions lead would be to involve society in inextricable confusion, since secrecy, or mystery, in so far as human intellect can reach, is rather the rule than the exception. There is no relation of life, or sphere of nature, without its proper and inevitable secret—no science, no art, no philosophy, nothing beneath the sun which

"The mind of man
Can fully scan."

Abstract secrecy, or secrecy of itself, is, therefore, no valid objection. There is, however, a sense

in which secrecy is an evil; that is when it is perverted, just as any other principle, however good in itself, when abused, will exert a mischievous and pernicious influence. The true touchstone is, the *use* not the *abuse* of secrecy; to this test Odd-Fellowship cordially submits its work.

But, apart from this view of the general subject, strange as it may sound to the uninitiated, it is nevertheless true that Odd-Fellowship is not a secret society. By far the larger portion of its ritual, or work, is in print, and is known to thousands and hundreds of thousands; all of its general legislation, comprising volumes of matter, is accessible to the public eye, and much of its ceremonial is constantly displayed to the public gaze. True, it possesses an unwritten and unspoken language, intelligible only to the membership. This language is, however, unimportant to the outside world, since it serves simply the purpose of mutual recognition between those to whom it is known. The members of the family have exclusive claims upon the supply which their joint labors and contributions have stored; hence it is fitting that safeguards should be thrown around these claims—how otherwise could a mutual relief society, in the secular sense of the word, be sustained? This is all the secrecy of Odd-Fellowship.

ITS GOVERNMENT.

All objects, the successful attainment of which is hoped for by the combination of masses of men, and the consolidation of many minds into a single will, demand a subordination which can only be maintained by a system of law and order. Odd-Fellowship, in conformity to this experience, has an organization peculiar to itself. It has a paramount fundamental law, embodied in the form of a written Constitution, emanating from a supreme federal head, styled the Grand Lodge of the United States. This body is representative in its character, and exercises executive, legislative, and judicial powers. It assembles once a year; during its recess its chief officer, called the M. W. Grand Sire, chosen biennially by the Body itself, is vested with executive power within constitutional limits. From the Grand Lodge of the United States, as the great heart of the Order, flow, and are distributed, the ramified powers and functions which are possessed and exercised by its subordinate agencies. The first, and the most important of these, are the State, Territorial, Provincial or Colonial Grand Bodies, so called for the reason that their sphere of action is confined to their respective geographical limits. These bodies each have written constitutions and general laws for the government of the Order within their respective jurisdictions, enacted

by themselves, but subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge of the United States. From them, also, are chosen biennially the representatives to the Grand Lodge of the United States, and by them alone are the primary assemblies of the Order, the Subordinate Bodies, created and immediately supervised, subject, however, to a ritual and general regulations, which are alike common to every Lodge of Odd-Fellows throughout the globe. The Subordinate Lodge is the active working theatre of the Order, and membership in good standing in any one Lodge, evidenced by proper authority, is a passport to admission into any other Lodge, wherever situated, and to aid and assistance from it when the brother who desires the one, or needs the other, makes known his character. This system of government has proved so admirably adapted to the great object of the institution that perfect fellowship and subordination have prevailed ever since its formation; each body adhering to its appropriate sphere, and all moving in perfect harmony as a whole.

RELIGIOUS ASPECT.

Odd-Fellowship is a moral, not a religious organization. The religious world is divided into many sects, each intent upon the promotion of its peculiar plans and interests, and of consequence

wanting in that unity of action so essential in every secular institution to the securement of those great results which illustrate the triumph of *benevolence* and *charity*. This want is, in a good degree, met by the employment of an agency not amenable to such a disability, and in which men of many *sects* and *creeds* may cordially co-operate and labor, upon common ground, for the relief of human suffering. Such an institution is Odd-Fellowship. It does not array itself against the CHURCH, nor presume to arrogate its functions, or to supervise its teachings. Its Lodges are not the council rooms of enmity to religious, civil, moral, or social organizations. Far otherwise: all its oracles and instructions in relation to these grave subjects find their warrant and authority in the divine law, under the inspiration of which it proclaims the Golden Rule as the sublimest illustration of the law of love.

THE SUBORDINATE LODGE.

Five or more members of the Order in good standing, by which is meant that they are clear of the books of the Lodge and free from any charge affecting character, may petition for authority to institute a Lodge. This petition must be addressed to the State, Territorial, Provincial or Colonial Grand Lodge within the geographical limits of which it is proposed to locate the Lodge; if no

Grand Lodge exists in such community, then the application must be addressed to the Grand Lodge of the United States; or, if in recess, to the M. W. Grand Sire. A Subordinate Lodge is the elementary organization of the Order, and, as has already been said, is the active field of its labors. It is there that the initiate receives his first impressions of Odd-Fellowship. There the broad foundation upon which the whole superstructure rests is laid bare to him, and the brotherhood of man is taught as the inspiration of Deity and the first law of nature. The lessons and instructions there rehearsed within his hearing, will create in him new impressions, if he be not wholly callous and insensible to the voice of humanity and to the counsels of wisdom. The business of a Subordinate Lodge is, however, chiefly administrative; its peculiar office is to provide the means to meet the claims of its sick and distressed members; to care for them properly during their illness; to bury the dead; to succor the widow, and to educate the orphan. In the faithful discharge of these duties it is ever watchful that no imposition is practised by unworthy members, and that exact obedience is yielded to the laws. It is also sedulous in requiring and enforcing a high-toned morality and an upright walk in life. Every Lodge enacts its own by-laws, which regulate the mutual obligations between it and its membership, and possesses exclusive control

over its own funds within their legitimate application.

BENEFITS.

The by-laws of a Lodge may be regarded as a contract between the initiate and the Lodge; they define generally the reciprocal duties and obligations of each; they prescribe the amount of the contribution levied upon each member to the common fund, and the amount of his claim upon it when sick or disabled. Ordinarily the tax does not exceed ten cents, nor does the benefit exceed four dollars per week. There are exceptional cases, where the Lodge exacts a larger premium and pays a larger weekly benefit; in but few instances, however, does the tax exceed twenty cents, or the benefits six dollars per week. These by-laws also provide the amount to be paid in case of the death of a member in good standing as a funeral benefit. This benefit is by no means uniform; each Lodge for itself prescribes the amount payable, subject not unfrequently to the State general law, which fixes a minimum rate. This benefit ranges from thirty dollars to five hundred or more; some Lodges impose a special tax upon each member of twenty-five or fifty cents, or one dollar, as a funeral benefit; in which cases, when the membership is large, as it usually is in cities, the benefit is correspondingly liberal. This fund is paid to the

widow, if any, if not, to the nearest of kin of the deceased. The education of the orphaned children is also enjoined, and is faithfully carried out. Although the by-laws form a contract between the Lodge and its members, the parties are each also subject in their relations to all the laws of the Order; and, in the construction and enforcement of this contract, each must conform to all the duties and injunctions prescribed by the laws at large; each must seek redress for grievance before the appointed tribunals of the Order, according to the forms prescribed, and these must be exhausted before the courts will intervene, if at all; and should jurisdiction be entertained of such grievances by the courts, it is believed that it would only be exercised to constrain the tribunals of the Order to a faithful administration of its laws.

MEMBERSHIP.

The general qualification for membership is prescribed in the following words: "No person shall be entitled to admission to the Order except free white males of good moral character, who have arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and who believe in a Supreme Being, the creator and preserver of the universe." To this general qualification there are two special and important additions—first, health of body and mind; second, limita-

tion as to age. The propriety and absolute necessity of these provisions will be apparent to every considerate mind, as a preventive of the great inequality and injustice which would otherwise result in the distribution of benefits. Every applicant for membership must therefore candidly disclose his sanitary condition, for, if concealment should be practised, it will not only vitiate the contract between him and the Lodge, but, what is more serious and important to the initiate, it will subject him to arraignment, trial, and expulsion, and consequent disgrace. Fidelity on the part of the membership, not only to the laws, and obligations of the Order, but to the laws of God, to the laws of the land, and to all the duties of citizenship, is strictly enjoined; good faith towards each other, and fair dealing with their fellow-men, are firmly yet fraternally enforced, and love for truth and honor, as cardinal virtues, is earnestly commended. This is Odd-Fellowship.

of the establishment of Odd Fellowship, made the following report:

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States :

The committee appointed to prepare a "form of ceremonies for use in the Lodge room and in public on the occasion of the celebration of the anniversary of the establishment of American Odd Fellowship," respectfully report the following form, and in doing so, gratefully acknowledge the service rendered to the committee by Grand Rep. HICKOK, of Pennsylvania, in the preparation of the form submitted.

R. A. LAMBERTON,
JOHN B. HARMON,
E. GOVER COX,
JOHN W. CARTER,
FRED. D. STUART,
JNO. F. HAVENNER.

CEREMONY TO BE OBSERVED AT THE CELEBRATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ORDER.

If the meeting be of the membership alone, in the Lodge room, then the regular opening ceremonies shall be gone through with, and such other business transacted as may be necessary, which being done, the Noble Grand shall commence the service of the day as follows—viz :

[NOTE.—That if the meeting be a public one, the above direction is to be dispensed with, and the N. G. having called the meeting to order, shall say :] N. G.—The Worthy Chaplain will invoke the blessing of God upon this meeting.

Rep. JONES, of New Hampshire, from the same committee, made the following report, which was laid on the table under the rule:

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States:

Your Committee on Appeals, to whom was referred the appeal of C. N. TERRY, from the action of the Grand Lodge of Oregon, in the case of Bro. S E. MAY, P. G., would report the following:

Whereas, Bro. MAY was expelled from Chemeketa Lodge, No. 1, of Oregon, but consent from said Lodge was given to Bro. MAY to unite or be reinstated in or by Salt Lake Lodge, No. 2, U. T., or any other Lodge in Salt Lake City, that might desire to admit him to membership; *and whereas*, the law provides that expelled members may connect themselves with Lodges of other jurisdictions, with the consent of the Lodge from which they were expelled. (White's Digest, 646 and 1675.)

Therefore Resolved, That the appeal of C. N. TERRY be dismissed.

AMOS JONES,
NATHAN PORTER,
JAMES WOODYATT,
HENRY LINDENBERG,
CHARLES N. HICKOK,
AARON B. CRANE,
N. P. RICHMOND,
J. S. TICKNOR,
J. P. SANDERS.

Rep. LAMBERTON, of Pennsylvania, from the Committee on Ceremonies, ~~and~~ *presented* at the celebration of the anniversary of the establishment of Odd Fellowship, made the following report:

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States:

The committee appointed to prepare a "form of ceremonies for use in the Lodge room and in public on the occasion of the celebration of the anniversary of the establishment of American Odd Fellowship," respectfully report the following form, and in doing so, gratefully acknowledge the service rendered to the committee by Grand Rep. HICKOK, of Pennsylvania, in the preparation of the form submitted.

R. A. LAMBERTON,
JOHN B. HARMON,
E. GOVER COX,
JOHN W. CARTER,
FRED. D. STUART,
JNO. F. HAVENNER.

CEREMONY TO BE OBSERVED AT THE CELEBRATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDER.

If the meeting be of the membership alone, in the Lodge room, then the regular opening ceremonies shall be gone through with, and such other business transacted as may be necessary, which being done, the Noble Grand shall commence the service of the day as follows—viz:

[NOTE.—That if the meeting be a public one, the above direction is to be dispensed with, and the N. G. having called the meeting to order, shall say:]

N. G.—The Worthy Chaplain will invoke the blessing of God upon this meeting.

PRAYER BY THE CHAPLAIN.

Almighty and ever-living God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, and without whom nothing can prosper, we invoke Thy blessing upon us as we are here assembled. Direct us in all our doings with Thy most gracious favor, and let the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts, while we wait before Thee, be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer. Amen.

N. G.—Vice Grand, for what intent has this convocation of brethren been assembled?

V. G.—In obedience to the proclamation of the Most Worthy Grand Sire, in order that we may render, as is justly due, devout thanksgiving to the beneficent and almighty Power who has preserved our lives, and protected and prospered our beloved Order.

N. G.—The Secretary will read the proclamation of the Most Worthy Grand Sire.

[Here the proclamation of the M. W. Grand Sire, and, if there be one, of the M. W. Grand Master, shall be read by the Secretary.]

N. G.—Vice Grand, when and where had American Odd Fellowship its beginning?

V. G.—In the city of Baltimore, on the memorable day of which this is the anniversary, April 26th, Anno Domini 1819.

N. G.—Who were its founders and first advocates?

V. G.—THOMAS WILDEY, JOHN WELCH, JOHN DUNCAN, JOHN CHEATHEM, and RICHARD RUSHWORTH.

N. G.—What were their objects and purposes?

V. G.—Those promulgated in all our charters, viz.: "For the aid and protection of brothers when in sickness and on travel, and for the purposes of benevolence and charity."

N. G.—Was there any special rule laid down for the Order's guidance, in the furtherance of this work?

V. G.—Yes, all is comprehended in the legend on the seal of the Grand Lodge of the United States, which legend is the mandate of the Order. "We command you to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead, and educate the orphan."

N. G.—Was this rule intended to apply to men of any particular party or creed?

V. G.—No, it is comprehensive as the human race. It rises above party, sect, or creed. Here all believers in the one living and true God, may unite in the bonds of a universal brotherhood.

N. G.—Is it intended either to supersede or to supplement creeds, beliefs, or ordinances, in matters of religion?

V. G.—By no means. No intelligent individual can by any possibility so construe it. It assumes no prerogative of the spiritual. Its members are free and untrammelled in all that lies between their God and themselves. It interferes with no duty which they, of conscience, owe to God, their country, their families or themselves. It is a minister only to man's temporal needs. It seeks but—

To mellorate the sorrows of mankind,
Relieve the poor, the sick, the maim, the blind;
Lift up the drooping heart; the widow cheer
And wipe away the helpless orphan's tear.
To form of men one wide-spread brotherhood
Linked only in the bonds of doing good.

N. G.—Has the Order been true to its assumed mission, and have its labors been crowned with success?

V. G.—Its work has been achieved with manifest imperfection, but with uniform faithfulness. It has increased in membership until the little band

has become a vast army. Millions have been expended in its ministrations, and its accumulated millions yet remain for the carrying on of the well-begun work. Man has been drawn closer to his brother-man; sorrow untold has been alleviated in the past, and it is gathering strength for its work in the years to come. It has increased in excellence as it has grown in age. Gloriously has it prospered, and its labors have been crowned with most abundant success.

N. G.—Then, my Brethren, it is meet and right, and our bounden duty that we should at all times, and especially on this day, so auspicious in the annals of our Order, come before the Great God, in whom we trust, with heartfelt thanksgiving for the prosperity He has vouchsafed, and for the good He has enabled us to do, and, with hearty acknowledgment of His hand in all our successes, our progress and improvement, to rejoice before Him, and ascribe to Him all the honor and glory. Let us sing His praises; let us thank Him for the past; let us implore the continuance of His protecting care.

[Either of the following hymns may be sung:]

THANKSGIVING HYMN.

TUNE—"Coronation."

All glorious, mighty Lord, to Thee
Our grateful song we raise;
Blest source of our prosperity,
Thy guardian care we praise.

Our Order, once a little band,
In weakness and in fear
Besought the guidance of thy hand,
Its thorny path to cheer.

The few, through Thy preserving care,
Are now a mighty host;
And Thou, who hearkened to our prayer,
Shalt be our constant boast.

Oft mid despondency and tears,
Our weary feet have gone;
But Thou, through long eventful years,
Hast safely led us on.

Then joyfully our hymns of praise,
In gratitude we frame;
Our hallelujahs high we raise
To Thy Almighty name.

ANNIVERSARY HYMN.

TUNE—"Old Hundred."

Father of love! Whose tender care
Hast kept us through another year;
With tuneful voices, now we raise,
Our hearts to Thee in grateful praise.

For mercies past, for joys to come,
For health, and happiness, and home,
For friendship, pure, for love and truth,
That crown our age and cheer our youth:—

Accept our thanks, our labors bless,
And to our efforts grant success,
And to thine honor we will raise
Unceasing hymns of prayer and praise.

N. G.—The Chaplain will lead us in thanksgiving and prayer.

PRAYER.

O! Thou, who rulest in the armies of Heaven and doest Thy will amongst the inhabitants of the earth. Thou, the Lord God, infinite in all Thy perfections, glorious in Thy holiness, wonderful in all Thy works, we acknowledge Thee as Thou hast revealed Thyself, as the source of life and of every blessing, and we come before Thee with our offering of praise and thanksgiving for the goodness and mercy with which Thou hast crowned our days. We recognize Thy wonder-working arm in the prosperity our Order has achieved, and we would, in gratitude, recall to mind the blessings Thou hast vouchsafed to us. Whose hand but Thine has led us? Whose power but Thine has sustained us? Whose eye but Thine has watched over us? Thou, and Thou only, hast borne with our sins and imperfections. Thou, and Thou only hast shaped our ends and directed our steps, and hast made our once feeble few to be as a nation in numbers and potent for good. For what we are and have done of ourselves we pray Thee mercifully to forgive. For whatever we are of Thy favor, and have done with Thy guidance, we bless, and laud, and magnify Thy glorious name, and ascribe to Thee all the honor, and we humbly pray Thee that the same all-wise, omnipotent power that has shielded and guided our Order in the past, may be our leader and defense in all the years to come. Divest our Order of everything contrary to Thy will; prevent it from ever dishonoring Thy great name; direct it in its efforts to benefit mankind; make it successful in doing good; mould it according to Thine own pleasure, and may the family of man be blessed by its ministrations, and thus Thy name be honored. Make us wise to see and faithful to improve our opportunities for doing good. May we have strength to obey Thee, and grace ever to honor Thee, and may the day soon come when all the nations, tongues and kindreds of the earth shall learn to do Thy will, and the whole family of man acknowledge Thee as their Lord, and be bound together in the ties of a universal brotherhood. Grant this, O, Lord, and whatever else Thou seest best for us, and let Thine be all the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

[Here let the Oration be delivered, if a speaker has been provided, or otherwise, let the N. G., or some other qualified brother deputed by him read an address or the "Standard Tract."]

ODE—OUR FLAG.

TUNE—*My Maryland.*

Fling wide our Banner! Land nor sea
Boasts prouder gonfalon than ours:
It points to higher destiny
Than crowns the strife of mortal powers.
Its field of white, its border bright,
Its links denoting Union's might,
It waves, an angel's wing, above,
Proclaiming Friendship, Truth, and Love.

CHORUS.

Its field of white, its border bright, etc.

Wave, Banner of the triple tie,
 In tranquil glory o'er the land:
 No dismal or ensanguined dye
 Shall mar the folds that here expand.
 It e'er shall share the brother's prayer,
 The Orphan rescue from despair;
 A benison each wave shall fling,
 And many a widowed heart shall sing.

CHORUS.

May blessings ever on it rest,
 While heralding our Order's fame:
 In every motion manifest
 The principles of good we claim.
 Whose beaming ray shall round it play
 Till merges in the night our day.
 And other generations prize
 The flag that greets our failing eyes.

CHORUS.

BENEDICTION BY THE CHAPLAIN.

Now, unto Him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, I commend you and the whole family of man; and to Him the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, now and forever. Amen.

The call being concluded, the Chair proceeded to call the jurisdictions in order, when

Rep. SHIELDS, of Alabama, submitted the following action of the Grand Encampment of Alabama:

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Representative of this Grand Encampment to the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States, be, and he is hereby instructed to vote against, and use all honorable means to defeat, "Mergement" in every shape and form.

Rep. BURTON, of California, submitted the following resolutions of instruction from the Grand Lodge of California, which were referred to the Legislative Committee:

Resolved, That our Grand Representatives to the Grand Lodge of the United States be, and are hereby instructed, to use their best endeavors to procure the abolishment of Past Recording Secretary's degree.

Resolved, That our Representatives to the Grand Lodge of the United States be, and are hereby instructed, to use their best endeavors to procure the passage of a law extending the term of office in Subordinate Lodges to twelve months.

Resolved, That our Representatives of this Grand Lodge to the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States be, and are hereby instructed, to use their efforts to effect such legislation as may be necessary to authorize the communication of the A. T. P. W. to the N. G. of each Degree and Rebekah Degree Lodge.

Rep. POND, of Connecticut, moved the following, which was referred to the Legislative Committee:

WHEREAS, The attention of the Lodges in the different jurisdictions is being

called to the subject of paying bills incurred in watching with the transient sick, and some Grand Lodges have settled the question so far as their jurisdictions extend; and *whereas*, expense bills are made by Lodges for watching with sick brothers belonging to Lodges in other jurisdictions than that in which the brother is temporarily residing, and oftentimes without the consent or knowledge of the sick brother's Lodge—the effect being, in many instances, to embarrass weak Lodges, requiring them to pay bills which they did not contract; and *whereas*, reciprocal relief is a cardinal principle in Odd Fellowship, admonishing us of our obligation to aid a brother in distress, and watch with him when sick, therefore,

Resolved, That it is the duty of any and every Subordinate Lodge of the Order to supply watchers, when needed, to a member of the Order in good standing, who may be sick or disabled, and under its care, whether he is a member of that particular Lodge or some other; and every Lodge that prefers to employ a competent person as watcher, rather than that the members discharge the duty personally, such bills are legitimate relief expenses, and should be paid by the Lodge contracting them.

Also the following, which was referred to the same committee:

WHEREAS, It is obligatory upon all officers of Subordinate or Grand Lodges and Encampments to wear jewels appropriate to their rank, in connection with their regalia; therefore,

Resolved, That the Legislative Committee be, and is hereby instructed, to report upon designs for three jewels—one to be worn by a District Deputy Grand Master; one by a District Deputy Grand Patriarch; and the other by a Degree Master—the first officer of a Degree Lodge.

Rep. TERRY, of Connecticut, moved the following resolution, which was referred to the Legislative Committee:

Resolved, That whenever a brother shall have made a proper application for degrees in his Lodge, the Lodge may open, for the purpose of balloting, in the highest degree applied for, and grant or deny them all at one ballot, unless there are present members who have not attained said highest degree, but are further advanced than the applicant, in which case the Lodge shall first be opened and a ballot taken in a lower degree, so as to afford every such member an opportunity to ballot. But no ballot can authorize the conferring a higher degree than that in which the Lodge is open when said ballot is taken.

Rep. FOULK, of Delaware, presented the memorial proceedings of the Grand Encampment of Delaware, touching the death of JOHN A. KENNEDY, Past Grand Sire.

BRO. STUART, P. G. Sire of the District of Columbia, presented the appeal of F. D. STUART from the decision of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, which was referred to the Committee on Appeals.

Rep. McLEAN, of the District of Columbia, presented the following proceeding of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia:

That so much as relates to the Degree of Rebekah, be referred to the committee on that Degree.

That so much as relates to the returns of Special Deputy Grand Sires, authorized to institute Grand and Subordinate Lodges, and Subordinate Encampments, be referred to the Committee on Returns.

That so much as relates to the death of P. D. Grand Sire NEWELL A. THOMPSON, be referred to the P. G. Sire and the Representatives from the jurisdiction of Massachusetts.

That so much as relates to jurisdictions, which have failed to present, previous to September 1st, certificates of the destruction of old rituals, so that their accounts could not be properly adjusted, and also the suggestion of the Grand Secretary, that hereafter supplies be sold at net prices, etc., be referred to the Committee on Finance

That so much as relates to the communication from Peoria, Ill., in regard to the translation in German of the ceremony for instituting a Subordinate Lodge, be referred to a special committee of Representatives conversant with the German language.

That so much as relates to the communication from the Secretary of the Washington National Monument Society, soliciting the aid of the Grand Lodge in the completion of the Washington National Monument, be referred to the Committee on Finance.

That the documents on Foreign Correspondence accompanying the report of the Grand Secretary, be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. ELLISON,
JAMES B. NICHOLSON,
G. W. RACE,
FRED. D. STUART,
LUTHER HOMES.

Bro. Rev. J. W. VENABLE, R. W. Grand Chaplain, from the Special Committee on Funeral Ceremony, made the following report, which was laid on the table under the rule:

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States:

The special committee appointed at the last session of this body to prepare a Funeral Ceremony for the use of this Order, have discharged that duty, and respectfully submit the following:

J. W. VENABLE,
J. H. ROBINSON,
M. S. DOWDEN,
C. N. HICKOK,
M. WILCOX.

FUNERAL CEREMONY.

[The Order of Procession and Regalia to be worn the same as prescribed in the Book of Forms.]

The coffin having arrived at, or been deposited in the grave, and such religious services performed as the friends of the deceased may have desired, the Noble Grand shall take position at the head of the grave, with the Chaplain on his right hand. Silently, and uncovered, the brethren, joining hands with each other, shall form in one or more circles around the grave, as near as may be, holding the hat in the left hand, and the ceremony shall proceed as follows:

NOBLE GRAND.

Brethren of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows:

We are assembled to perform the last office which the living can render to the dead. Be attentive, therefore, to the instruction now to be imparted.

CHAPLAIN.

MY BRETHREN: A solemn occasion brings us here to-day; and as the coffin and the grave so forcibly speak to us of our mortality, may we not ask with the Psalmist, "Lord, what is man, that Thou art mindful of him, and the son of man, that Thou visiteth him?" From the sacred Scriptures comes the response: "Man that is born of woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not." "We bring our years to an end, as it were a tale that is told. The dust shall return to the earth as it was, and the spirit shall return unto God, who gave it."

In obedience to the Divine will, our Brother has been removed from earth and its associations. But, though he be dead, shall he not live again? Yea, verily; for it is said in Holy Writ, "Though I walk through the valley and shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff comfort me. My flesh, also, shall rest in hope, for Thou wilt not leave my soul in the grave."

Thus, though we now deposit in the earth the mortal remains of our beloved Brother, we have an assurance of meeting again, at the coming of that day to which Hope looks forward with ardent joy, when the tears and woes of this life shall be submerged in the healing tide that flows from the eternal fountain of Divine Peace and Love.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, and though He cause grief, yet will He have compassion according to the multitude of His mercies. Take heed, then, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. In His presence is fullness of joy; at his right hand are pleasures forevermore.

NOBLE GRAND.

[Casting a sprig of evergreen into the grave.] As Odd Fellows, we deposit this *evergreen* in the grave of our deceased brother, as a token that while we bury his frailties with his body, his virtues shall dwell greenly in our memories.

[The brothers will now deposit their evergreens; after which either of the following hymns may be sung:]

HYMN 1.—C. M.

Few are thy days, and full of woe,
O man, of woman born;
Thy doom is written, "Dust thou art,
To dust thou shalt return."

Behold the emblem of thy state
In flowers that bloom and die;
Or in the shadow's fleeting form
That mocks the gazer's eye.

Determined are the days that fly
Successive o'er thy head;
The number'd hour is on the wing,
That lays thee with the dead.

Great God, afflict not in thy wrath,
The short allotted span,
That bounds the few and weary days
Of pilgrimage to man.

HYMN II.—7's.

AIR—*Norwich.*

Solemn strikes the funeral chime,
Notes of our departing time,
As we journey here below,
Through a pilgrimage of woe.

Mortals now indulge a tear,
For mortality is here;
See how wide her trophies wave,
O'er the slumbers of the grave.

God of life's eternal day,
Guide us, lest from thee we stray
By a false, delusive light,
To the shades of endless night.

Lord of all below, above,
Fill our souls with truth and love;
When dissolved our earthly tie,
Take us to thy home on high.

PRAYER BY CHAPLAIN.

Almighty and Eternal God, the Creator and Redeemer of all mankind, we pray Thee to impress us with a sense of the shortness and uncertainty of human life. In Thy hands alone are the issues of life and death, and we humbly beseech Thee to look upon us in mercy, while we weep with those that weep. Grant that we who survive may put our trust in Thee, and do those things which are pleasing in Thy sight. O, merciful God, we commend to Thy unfailing goodness those whom it hath pleased Thee to add to the number of the sorrowing. Remember them in mercy, and sanctify Thy fatherly correction to them. Give them patience under their affliction, and resignation to Thy will. Be Thou their strength and shield, and relieve them according to their needs. Bless our beloved Order here and everywhere. May Friendship and Love abide with us, while Thy Spirit leads us in the way of Truth. Maintain peace and prosperity within our borders; shield us from the shafts of enmity, and make us dwell in unity—faithful in principle and fruitful in good works. And unto Thy holy name be ascribed the honor and glory for ever.

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His fatherly countenance upon you, and give you peace, now and evermore. Amen.

[The grave having been filled up or closed, the brethren shall silently re-form in procession according to the order observed in coming to the place of interment, and shall return in such order to the Lodge room, where the N. G., after the ordinary business is transacted, shall declare the funeral ceremonies to be closed.]

Bro. ELLISON, P. G. Sire, from the Special Committee on that subject, made the following report, when, on motion, the rule requiring reports to lay on the table for one day, was suspended, and the report was considered and adopted:

The Special Committee to whom was referred the duty of examining the revised unwritten work, would ask leave to report that they have compared the revised copies with the old work and find they have been correctly transcribed.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. ELLISON,
JAMES B. NICHOLSON,
JAS. L. RIDGELY,
JAS. P. SANDERS.

Rep. PORTER, of California, from the Committee on Appeals, made the following report, which was laid on the table under the rule :

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of the United States :

On the appeal of Seymour Lodge, No. 204, from the action of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, the Committee report that the facts of the case are as follows :

Said Seymour Lodge, on the 5th day of December, 1871, passed the following resolutions :

Be it resolved by Seymour Lodge, No. 204, I. O. O. F., "1st. That we believe it would be for the good of the Order in Seymour, that another Lodge of Odd Fellows be instituted in this city.

"2d. That in case a part of the members of Seymour Lodge desire to start another Lodge in Seymour, that this Lodge shall divide its General and Orphan Funds with said new Lodge, equally in proportion to the members that go into the new Lodge, as compared with those that remain in this Lodge in good standing.

"3d. That, should a Lodge be instituted as provided in the foregoing resolutions, that the two Lodges, should they so desire, shall occupy the same Hall, and hold the lease and fixtures in common, and each according to their membership bear their proportion of the expense, and receive their proportion of the income of the same.

"4th. That these resolutions, when adopted by the Lodge, shall be spread on the minutes of the Lodge, and shall be binding on the same, and shall not be changed or modified, except by a written resolution offered and read in open Lodge, at least one week before final action is had on the same ; and no change shall be made to the detriment or disadvantage of the new Lodge, after cards have been drawn and steps taken to institute the same."

Acting on the good faith of said Seymour Lodge in passing said resolutions, forty-four members of said Lodge, on the 13th of May, 1873, withdrew therefrom, and organized said Lincoln Lodge. Afterwards, to wit, on the 10th of June, 1873, said Lincoln Lodge, by a committee, made a demand on Seymour Lodge for a division of the property thereof, as provided for by said resolutions, which demand said Seymour Lodge refused to comply with. Lincoln Lodge appealed to the Grand Lodge, of Indiana, asking that Seymour Lodge should be compelled to comply with the resolutions, and divide the property accordingly. The said Grand Lodge sustained the appeal, and ordered Seymour Lodge to comply. From which action of the Grand Lodge this appeal is taken by Seymour Lodge.

By a resolution of the G. L. U. S., passed in 1863, (*White's Digest*, 1062,) it is provided that donations made to assist petitioning brothers * * by the parent body * * * for the purpose of instituting new Lodges * * * are allowable, and in no sense to be regarded as a division of the funds of the Lodge. In consonance with the said resolution of the G. L. U. S., it is provided by the general laws of the jurisdiction of Indiana—*chapter VII., section 1*—that the funds, property, etc., of Subordinate Lodges are not * * * to be divided * * * among the members individually, or between one Lodge and another, *except* to those who may withdraw therefrom for the purpose of organizing a new Lodge. * * *

